

[10th February 1959]

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : கோலில் நிதியிலிருந்தாவது சித்த வைத்திய முறையில் ஆராய்ச்சி செய்வதற்குப் பணம் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறதா?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Yes, Sir. Some temples have taken up the question of research on this Siddha system of medicine.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : சித்த வைத்திய முறையைப் பற்றி ஆராய்ச்சி செய்வது மதச்சம்பந்தப்பட்டது என்று அரசியலாளர் கருதுகிறார்களா?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : வியாதிஸ்தர்களுக்குக் குச் சிறந்த பக்தி இருக்காது. வியாதிவந்தால், அதையும் தீர்க்கத்தான் வேண்டும்.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions are over.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY A MEMBER.

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SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : On a point of personal explanation, Sir. The other day in commenting on my speech, one of the hon. Members said, 'Mr. Srinivasavaradan has incited the people to loot shops.' I did not make any such observation. I brought to the notice of the Government the prevailing high prices and I said that the people were in despair. 'This is what I have said : 'Please concentrate your attention on solving this food problem and if you do that, the other things would solve by themselves.' I did not at all incite the people to loot. The hon. Member Sri P. T. Rajan said that I did not at all incite the people, but still the Member persisted. I only wish to bring to the notice of the House the unfortunate interpretation that has been put on my speech and correct it. It was not my intention to incite the people.

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ : Sir, is any hon. Member entitled to put his own construction on the speech of another Member?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is only a statement of personal explanation.

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : On a point of information, Sir. I want to know what the actual speech of the Member was . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. It is only a statement made to correct misinterpretation.

III.—DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS—cont.

SRI V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER : கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய உரையில் பரம்பிக்குளத் திட்டம் சம்பந்தமாகக் கேரள அரசாங்கத்தோடு பேசி முடிவு எடுத்திருப்பதைப்பற்றிச் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்தத் திட்டம் நாங்கள் பல காலமாய் ஆசையோடு எதிர்பார்த்து வந்த திட்டம். இந்தத் திட்டம் கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் தென் பகுதியில் இருக்கின்ற வரண்ட பிரதேசங்களுக்குப் பிரயோஜனப்படக்கூடிய ஒரு திட்டம். நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் பல திட்டங்கள்

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[Sri V. K. Palaniswamy Gounder]

போடப்பட்டு வேலை முடிவடைந்திருக்கின்றது. அதிலும் சுதந்திரத்திற்குப் பிறகு, பல திட்டங்கள் முடிவடைந்திருக்கின்றன. லோயர் பவானித் திட்டம், அமராவதித் திட்டம், கிருஷ்ணகிரித் திட்டம், சாத்தனூர்த் திட்டம், மணிமுத்தாறுத் திட்டம் முதலிய பல திட்டங்கள் பல வருஷங்களாக இன் ஜினியர்களால் யோசனை செய்யப்பட்டு உருவாக்கப்பட்டு இப்போது முடிவடைந்திருக்கிற திட்டங்களாகும். ஆனால், பரம்பிக்குளத் திட்டம் இன்ஜினியர்களால் முன்பு பரிசீலிக்கப்படவில்லை. பத்து, இருபது வருஷங்களாக இந்தத் திட்டத்தைக் கொண்டு வர வேண்டுமென்று நானே சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். “லேமென்” என்கிற முறையில் 1937-ம் ஆண்டில் சட்டசபையில் இருந்தபோது, இந்தத் திட்டத்தை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். இதற்காகக் கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் பல மகாநாடுகள் கூட்டப்பட்டுப் பல தீர்மானங்கள் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டு அரசாங்கத்திற்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. கடைசியாக, இப்போது இந்தத் திட்டம் உருவாகியிருப்பதைக் கேட்டு நான் மிக மிக மகிழ்ச்சியடைகிறேன். எல்லோரையும் விட நான் ரொம்பவும் கூடுதலாக மகிழ்ச்சியடைகிறேன் என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். இதற்காக நமது அரசாங்கம் கேரள அரசாங்கத்தோடு கலந்து பேசி ஒரு முடிவைக் கண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தத் திட்டம் வேலை செய்ய ஆரம்பித்துவிட்டது என்று கவர்னர் அவர்கள் சொல்லியிருப்பதைக் கேட்டு நான் மகிழ்ச்சியடைகிறேன். இந்தத் திட்டம் புஞ்சைச் சாகுபடிக்கும் நஞ்சைச் சாகுபடிக்கும் உதவும் வகையில் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. தென்னிந்தியாவில் புஞ்சைச் சாகுபடிக்கு வாய்க்கால் தண்ணீரைப் பயன்படுத்துவதில்லை. லோயர் பவானித் திட்டம் வந்ததின் பின்னால், புஞ்சைச் சாகுபடிக்கும் தண்ணீர் கொடுப்பதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்டது. இந்த நிலைமையில் கோயம்புத்தூர் ஜில்லாவில் பல இடங்களில் கழிந்த நூலைந்து வருடங்களாக விவசாயத்தில் பல சிக்கல்கள் ஏற்பட்டிருப்பது அரசாங்கத்திற்குத் தெரியும். இம்மாதிரி வாய்க்கால் தண்ணீரிலிருந்து புஞ்சைச் சாகுபடி இதுவரையிலும் செய்ததில்லை. இந்தத் திட்டம் புதிதாக இருக்கிறதாலும், பல கஷ்டங்கள் ஏற்படலாம். இன்னும் அங்கே பல பிரச்சனைகள் முடிவு செய்யப்படாமலே இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கின்றன. அங்குள்ள விவசாயிகளுக்கு அங்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்ற அனுபவத்தின் காரணமாக, எந்தமாதிரியாவது முடிவுகள் செய்தால் அவர்களுக்கு நல்லதாக இருக்கும் என்பதை நன்றாக அறிந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே, அதை அனுபவத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு, இந்தப் பரம்பிக்குளத் திட்டத்தையும் சரிவரச் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். பரம்பிக்குளம் சம்பந்தப்பட்டமட்டில், அங்குள்ள விவசாயிகளோடு கலந்து பேசி, எந்தப் பயிர்களுக்குத் தண்ணீர் விடுவது, எந்தக் காலங்களில் எல்லாம் தண்ணீர் விடவேண்டும் என்பதையெல்லாம் கேட்டு அதன்படி அரசாங்கம் ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். கேரள அரசாங்கத்தோடு பேசி முடிவு எடுத்ததற்காக இந்த அரசாங்கத்தை மீண்டும் நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய உரையில் விவசாய பூமிகளுக்கு உச்ச வரம்பு கட்டப் போவதாகச் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. நில உடைமைக்கு உச்ச வரம்பு கட்டுகிற விஷயம் 10 வருட காலமாகப் பேச்சில் இருந்துவந்தது எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். இப்போது சீக்கிரமாகவே இதற்கு ஒரு முடிவு செய்யப் போவதாகத் தெரிகிறது. இதைக் கொஞ்சம் யோசித்துச் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். பூமிக்கு உச்ச வரம்பு கட்ட வேண்டியதுதான். அது அவசியமில்லை என்று நான் சொல்ல வரவில்லை. பக்கத்தில் இருக்கிற பிற்போக்கான நாடான பாக்கிஸ்தானில் கூட உச்ச வரம்பு கட்டியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால், உச்ச வரம்பை நிச்சயிக்கும்போது, அதை உயர்த்தி நிச்சயிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். இந்த விஷயம் இப்போது உலகெங்கும் இருக்கக்கூடிய விஷயம். நான் ஏன் நில வரம்பை உயர்த்தி நிச்சயிக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால், விவசாயிகளாக இருக்கின்ற மக்கள், நாடுபூராவுக்கும் சோஷலிஸ சமுதாயம் வரப் போகிறது என்று எதிர்பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சோஷலிஸ சமுதாயத்தில் நில ஆர்ஜிதம் செய்ய வேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை. ஆனால், விவசாயிகளுக்கு வேண்டிய அளவு செலவுக்குக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். விவசாயிகளுடைய குழந்தைகளைப் படிப்

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பிப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய அளவு வருமானம் அவசியம். அதோடு விவசாயி நோய்வாய்ப்பட்டிருந்தால், அதற்குச் சிகிச்சை செய்வதற்கு வேண்டிய வருமானம் கொடுக்க வேண்டியது அவசியம். அதோடு வயதான பிறகு பாதுகாப்பாக இருப்பதற்கும் ஊதியம் கொடுக்க வேண்டியது அவசியம். இதையெல்லாம் சோஷலிஸ்ப்பாணியில் இருக்கின்ற அரசாங்கம் செய்து கொடுக்க வேண்டும். நாம் அதையெல்லாம் கொடுப்பதற்குத் தகுந்த நிலையில் இல்லையென்றாலும், தகுந்த அளவுக்கு உயர்த்தி நில உச்ச வரம்பை நிர்ணயிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். அது மாத் திரமல்ல, விவசாயத்தில் ஈடுபட்டிருப்பவர்களுக்கு மாத் திரம் கட்டுப்பாடு கொண்டுவந்தால் போதாது. மற்றத் தொழில்களில் ஈடுபட்டிருப்பவர்களுக்கும் கட்டுப்பாடு கொண்டுவர வேண்டும். அப்படியில்லாமல், விவசாயி களுடைய வருமானத்திற்கு மாத் திரம் கட்டுப்பாட்டை ஏற்படுத்தினால், விவசாயக் குடும்பங்களிலுள்ள பிள்ளைகள் அதிகமாகப் படிப்பதற்கு வசதியில்லாமல் போய்விடும். அதே போன்றுதான், அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய மருத்துவ வசதி செய்து கொடுக்க இயலாமல் போகும். ஆகவே, இதற்குத் தகுந்தவாறு உச்ச வரம்பை நிர்ணயிக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

இது தவிர, இன்றைக்கு நாட்டில் உணவு தானியங்களின் விலைவாசி ஏறிக் கொண்டே போவதை நாம் பார்க்கிறோம். இதனால் விவசாயிகளுடைய தானியங்களுடைய விலையும் ஏறிக்கொண்டே போய்விடும். ஆனால், இப்போது இரண்டொரு மாதங்களில் இந்த விலை இறங்கிக்கொண்டு வருவதை நாம் பார்க்கிறோம். காரணமென்னவென்றால், இப்போது உணவுப் பொருளான நெல், அரிசி எல்லாம் வருகிற காலமாகும். இதனால் இவற்றின் விலைகள் ஓரளவு இறங்கிவருவது சகஜம். அந்த உற்பத்தி போதுமானது இருப்பதினாலே, விலையும் இறங்கிக்கொண்டு வருகிறது. இருந்தாலும், விலை உயர்வைக் கட்டுப்படுத்துவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் இப்பொழுது அரிசி, நெல் வியாபாரத்தைக் கட்டுப்படுத்தலுக்குக்கிறார்கள். அரிசி, நெல் வியாபாரம் செய்கின்றவர்கள், அரசாங்கத்தின் உத்தரவு அன்னியில், லைசென்ஸ் இல்லாமல் செய்யக் கூடாதென்றும் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதோடு, அரசாங்கமும் இரண்டரை லட்சம் டன் அரிசி கூட்டுறவு ஸ்தாபனங்கள் மூலமாக வாங்க இருக்கிறது. இதைச் செய்வது விலையைக் கட்டுப்படுத்துவதற்காக என்று தெரிகிறது. ஆனால், சென்ற ஐந்தாறு வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்பு, உணவுக் கட்டுப்பாடு இருந்ததை நாம் மறந்திருக்க முடியாது. அதிலே ஏற்பட்ட பல சிக்கல்களை, பல கஷ்டங்களை நாம் இன்னும் மறக்கவில்லை. முன்பு உணவுக் கட்டுப்பாடு இருந்தபோது, உணவு தானியங்களைக் கொடுப்பவர்களும் கஷ்டப்பட்டார்கள்; வாங்கிச் சரப்பிட்டவர்களும் கூட நல்ல அரிசி கிடைக்காமல், கெட்டுப்போன அரிசியை வாங்கியதோடு, சரியான அளவில் கிடைக்காமலும் கஷ்டப்பட்டார்கள். அந்தக் கஷ்டங்களெல்லாம் வராமல் அரசாங்கம் பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். பழையபடி உணவுக் கண்ட்ரோல் வந்துவிடுமோ என்று ஜனங்கள் பீதியுடன் இருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த அளவுக்கு இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாட்டை நீடிக்காமல் ஓரளவுக்கு மேல்வாரியாக வைத்துக்கொண்டு, விலை உயராமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்வதோடு அரசாங்கம் நிறுத்திக்கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

நம்முடைய சட்ட சபையை உதகையிலே கூட்ட வேண்டுமென்று பல காலமாக நாம் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு வந்தோம். உதகையிலே கூட்டம் நடத்துவதை அரசாங்கம் இப்பொழுது ஒத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. உதகையிலே கூட்டம் நடத்துவதாலே பெரிய செலவாகும், அதனால் அங்கே செல்லக் கூடாது என்று காங்கிரஸ் கட்சியே பல காலம் சொல்லிவந்திருக்க, இப்பொழுது உதகைக்குப் போக முடிவு செய்திருக்கிறார்களே என்று திராவிட முன்னேற்றக் கழக அங்கத்தினர்கள் சொல்வது தவறு என்று நான் சொல்வேன். அவர்கள் பல சமயம் அங்கு சென்றுகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால், அங்கே சட்ட சபை மாத் திரம் நடக்கக்கூடாது என்று சொல்வது சரியல்ல. உதகை நம் ராஜ்யத்தைச் சேர்ந்தது. உதகையிலே இருக்கும் மக்கள், அங்கே சட்ட சபை நடக்க வேண்டுமென்றும், அரசாங்கமே கோடை காலத்திலே அங்கே நடக்க வேண்டும் என்றும் எதிர்பார்க்கிறார்கள். உதகையிலே சட்ட சபைக் கூடப்பங்களை நடத்துவதென்று அரசாங்கம் முடிவு

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[Sri V. K. Palaniswamy Gounder]

செய்திருப்பதை நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன். அதனால் பெரிய செலவு ஆகிவிடும் என்று சொல்வதற்கில்லை. செலவு ஆனாலுங்கூடப் பரவாயில்லை. எனென்றால், உதகை நம் ராஜ்யத்தைச் சேர்ந்த ஒரு பிரதேசம்; உலகம் முழுவதும் தெரிந்த பிரதேசம்; அந்த இடத்தை உலகத்தவர்கள் பாராட்டுகிறார்கள். அப்படிப்பட்ட மலை வாசல்தலத்தை நல்ல முறையில் வைத்திருப்பது நம்முடைய கடமை. அது நல்ல முறையில் இல்லாமல் கெட்டுப் போனால், நம் ராஜ்யத்தில் இருக்கும் முக்கியமான ஸ்தலத்தை இழந்தவர்களாவோம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு, என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்கின்றேன்.

* SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not propose to take up much of the time of the House as the Address has been subjected to discussion already for three days and almost all the aspects covered by the Address have been dealt with by the Members who have preceded me. I shall only confine myself to a few remarks as they occur to me. The Address discloses an impressive record of achievements and the Government are entitled to take credit for it. Having some experience of the student world in North India and the way in which party politics intrude into the academic institutions there, I cannot but congratulate the Government and the leaders of the political parties on the 'agreed decision'—the Address uses the words—about student participation in politics. The Address says that this decision of the political parties in Madras has evoked appreciative comments throughout the country. I am here, Sir, to bear testimony to such appreciative comments elsewhere. I have heard various leading men in North India commending this step on the part of the political leaders in this part of the country. Unfortunately, however, the political leaders in North India do not emulate the political leaders here with the result that party politics are freely injected into the academic institutions, much to the distraction of the students' attention and there are outbursts of emotion and indiscipline in those areas. If to-day our students by and large are free to pursue their studies in the academic institutions in this part of the country, it is not a little due, I think, to the gentleman's understanding that has been arrived at by our political leaders. It was rather disturbing to hear our Deputy Chairman yesterday saying that attempts had been made to go back upon this understanding. I hope the understanding will be strictly observed in practice and adhered to and that the Deputy Chairman's fears are groundless.

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ : I wish they were groundless.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : He also holds that view.

* SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : But I am afraid the claim in the Address about appreciative comments being made throughout the country about the decision on the Union language cannot be sustained. As a matter of fact, everyone knows that there was an acute controversy on the question of the official language of the Union Government, though I agree with the views of the Madras Government. When I was examined before the Kher Commission a few years ago, I said that it would be inconsistent

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with the dignity and prestige of India to be always clinging to a foreign language like English for purposes of administration at the Union level. I have heard since very elaborate arguments to the contrary by some of our most respected leaders, but I still adhere to that view. It seems to me that India must have its own national language and according to the inescapable realities of the situation, Hindi alone can have that status. There is also an agitation that the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution must be amended by including English as one of the languages specified there. But that overlooks the fact that the Eighth Schedule only specifies certain languages which are referred to in an Article of the Constitution which speaks of the "Languages of India". The Eighth Schedule refers, therefore, to only what can be properly called the languages of India. But I do not think that merely because a section of our educated countrymen use normally English for purposes of public affairs and also in some cases unfortunately for purposes of private life, English can be called a language of India. A language of India must be a language indigenous to the country and English cannot claim that status any more than, for instance, Dutch can be spoken of as a language of Indonesia or English can be spoken of as a language of Burma and so on. An indigenous language alone can claim a title to be included in the Eighth Schedule. At any rate, our Constitution-makers thought so, and in my humble submission, they were right and English cannot be included as a language of India in the Eighth Schedule of our Constitution so far as it refers to an earlier Article which speaks of the languages of India. But that does not mean that the time-limit specified in the Constitution for change-over to Hindi should be strictly enforced or adhered to. Sufficient time must be given to people in non-Hindi-speaking areas to get an adequate mastery of Hindi which is proposed to be used for official purposes at the Union level. I am not worried about our young men finding it difficult to gain a knowledge of that language. For people who have attained mastery over a foreign language like English, which is the envy of other parts of India, I do not feel, there will be much difficulty in mastering Hindi, provided, of course, sufficient time is given for the purpose. Therefore, there must be an extension of the time-limit by amending Article 343 of the Constitution which prescribes the time-limit. The extension may be for twenty years or thirty years. That is a matter of detail which the proposers of the amendment must consider before they effect the amendment. Provided that is done, as I said, I shall not be worried about the problem presenting any difficulty to the people in this part of the country. They will certainly learn Hindi and be on a par with the people in the North who are already familiar with Hindi.

Then, the Address refers to the vexed question of rising prices of foodgrains. During the debate on the statement regarding Food placed on the table of the House by the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture some time last year, I pointed out that the attack of the problem on the production front would only give us a long-term solution and that something must be attempted on the price control

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front, if I may use that expression. The explanation for the rise in food prices, if I remember aright, given in the statement was that the very high level of prices prevailing in the North had its own impact upon the grain market in this part of the country. That explanation, I thought, was not very convincing because of the zonal arrangement. That is, foodstuffs were not allowed to be exported outside the zones and there was no movement in the contrary direction also, each zone being regarded as more or less self-contained. That being so, it was difficult for me to understand how prices in Uttar Pradesh or Bihar, for instance, could have an impact on the grain market in the Madras City or in the mufassal. I suggested, if I remember aright, that some control should be imposed on prices—some ceiling fixed on prices—and that a drive should be undertaken against hoarders and profiteers. Yesterday, I was glad to hear from the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture that control was imposed recently—on 2nd February—and that orders had been issued to the effect that rice or paddy should not be sold at a price above a certain level. It will have its effect soon on bringing down the price. That is an encouraging statement and I am glad that the Government have undertaken an attack on this problem on the control side apart from merely concentrating on the production side.

Then, the Address proceeds to say that the basic requirement of the present situation, viz., redoubling of efforts at stepping up agricultural production, should be met by bringing in legislation about ceiling on land holdings. All that I can say upon this vexed question of ceiling is that the Government seem to be actuated more by ideological considerations than by the immediate objective of solving the food problem. Both these objectives seem to underlie the scheme. But I fear that at this juncture, when food prices are still high, notwithstanding the issue of control orders, and when production has not increased, it would be very difficult to say whether fixation of ceiling upon holdings would be a proper way of bringing about an increase in food production. At any rate, at this juncture, I would deprecate launching upon this experiment. At best, it is an experiment and all the results that will flow from it cannot be clearly foreseen at present because it is a complicated experiment which bristles with practical difficulties, as pointed out by my hon. Friend Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar, in the course of his forceful speech yesterday. It may be, as Dr. Usman observed, an experiment by which the Government's objective of socialistic pattern of society would be achieved in which case the Government may deserve congratulation by the people. But it may, on the other hand, equally be that the experiment miscarries, in which case, disastrous consequences might ensue, much to the detriment of food production in this part of the country. Therefore, I would respectfully join with Dr. Usman in enjoining caution upon the Government. Let them proceed experimentally by introducing this reform in some area, if they must. Let them see the results flowing from it and then if they find that production has increased and their socialistic

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objective has been satisfactorily achieved, there will be time enough for them to extend the experiment to other districts or areas as well.

Sir, on the question of education, the Address says that the reorganization of the curricula has already begun in elementary schools and will commence in high schools in the next academic year. I submit that this reorganization must be conformable to our own culture and civilization. Unfortunately, however, the complaint has been made in responsible quarters including the University Education Commission that our education has been "un-Indian". That is because it is an education that was imposed upon this country by the British rulers. A noted American educationist says, "A programme of organized education tends to become an intrusion and an impertinence whenever it seeks to shape the development of the young without due regard to the patterns of particular culture and history of which they are a part". Therefore, it is necessary, Sir, that the reorganization that is contemplated in the curricula, particularly of the elementary and secondary schools, should conform to the distinctive pattern of our own culture and civilization. The young should be nurtured in the ideas and ideals of our own cultural tradition. After all, they are to be the future citizens of the country. Their education must be along Indian lines and on the lines of Indian culture and Indian tradition. There is plenty of excellent reading material in our cultural heritage and I suggest that our educationists should bestow their attention upon making a proper selection from this material for the text-books in the elementary schools and secondary schools. If our young men are imbued with our own ancient ideals and cultural ideals which are very noble and high-minded, I am sure, the future generation of Indians will conform more to our own traditional patterns of thought and culture than the present generation of educated Indians do. About the latter, there has been a lot of complaint that they form almost a separate class not in tune with the thoughts and aspirations of our fellow-countrymen who do not happen to have English education. That sort of charge will disappear if our rising generation of young men are educated more along Indian lines. That is my submission so far as the attempted reorganization of curriculum of the elementary and secondary schools is concerned.

2-10
p.m.

Then, Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks on the Community Development programme. It is obvious that no community development programme can be complete without adequate rural medical relief and it is a matter of common knowledge now that such rural medical relief is now woefully inadequate. Our political leaders put the blame for the state of affairs upon the paucity of fully qualified medical men and the unwillingness of such of them as are available to settle down in villages and set up practice there. Exhortations and admonitions from time to time are not wanting. Our young men are reminded about humanitarian ideals and are told about the dedicated life of sacrifice and the rest of it, and are asked to go and settle down in villages. To me it appears that

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admonitions and advices are unrealistic. Our qualified young men, our medical graduates have spent large sums of money in equipping themselves medically by undergoing five years' course and it is, I think, unimaginative to ask them to settle down in villages and set up practice there. Besides, even if they choose to go and settle down in remote villages, they will be faced with lack of adequate equipment in the shape of well-stocked dispensaries, and these dispensaries would again cost enormous sums of money. In the case of the allopathic system of medicine, anti-biotics and other drugs and medical accessories cost large sums of money nowadays. Therefore, this problem could not be solved along those expensive lines. I would, if I may, make a suggestion to our Government—though the Hon. the Minister for Health is not here—why not give a trial to the homoeopathic system? The time is long past when the homoeopathic system was said to be merely empirical and not based upon scientific principles. A British Act of Parliament has established a faculty of homoeopathy as a separate branch of medicine and the Queen, I understand, has appointed a homoeopathic doctor as Her Majesty's Honorary Physician. Therefore, I do not think the charge that the homoeopathic system is unscientific can hold water any longer.

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ : That is what our modern doctors say.

* SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : They may say so.

But that criticism can no longer be sustained in view of developments taking place not only in the United Kingdom but also in America. In America the system has made great strides. Great homoeopathic colleges and universities are functioning in our own country. I understand that in Bombay the homoeopathic system has been recognized. So also in Uttar Pradesh.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Here also there is a proposal.

* SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : I am glad to hear that.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : No, no.

* SRI M. PATANJALI SASTRY : In the Madhya Pradesh they have introduced a two-year course of training in homoeopathy based upon a very adequate syllabus, comprising not merely homoeopathic theory and practice and pharmacopoeia but also anatomy, physiology, pathology and such other subjects which every medical student must master. So, I would respectfully urge upon our Government to take steps to establish schools and colleges for training young men in homoeopathy. It may be that that syllabus can be based upon what obtains already in the Madhya Pradesh, and S.S.L.C. students can be trained in that way. Already there are a few S.S.L.C. students in villages and if students are drawn from the villages in order to have a two-year course as it is done in Madhya Pradesh, and if those subjects are

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taught, it would be much more easy to induce them readily to settle down in the villages. That way the problem of rural medical relief can be solved. Further, in the case of the homoeopathic system, drugs are extremely cheap. For instance, we can have a first class homoeopathic dispensary and a well-equipped homoeopathic library with a capital outlay of less than Rs. 1,000. So, the enormous sums that will be required for running the drug store on the allopathic system in the village parts, would be avoided. It seems to me that this will be an effective method of tackling the problem of rural medical relief on efficient lines. Now, legislation on the subject is already in force in Bombay, Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. Therefore, I suggest that legislation on similar lines can be brought forward here also by making provision for the opening of schools and colleges where these young men of only S.S.L.C. standard could undergo the two-year course. Recently, the Madras Homoeopathic Association has started a course of two years, based upon the Madhya Pradesh syllabus, by giving tuition only to those who choose to attend the classes which are held only in the evening. I am glad to be able to inform this House that a number of students have been attracted to it. Not only students but also people who have entered life and who are holding official position, including teachers and retired officials, are attending classes and undergoing training with enthusiasm and zeal. If regular schools are opened, classes will be well-attended and a good number of young men of the S.S.L.C. standard could be attracted and they may be trained and sent out to rural parts. Incidentally, Sir, there will be this benefit: If the Government undertake legislation, they can exclude a number of quacks who set up practice as homoeopaths now. They have no other equipment than their medicine chest. They merely rely upon some kind of empirical knowledge which they picked up at random. They have no sort of real qualification. Some of them hold bogus degrees or diplomas, and they are allowed to practise and dabble with the health of the general public. It is almost a public danger. If legislation is brought forward, it can provide for a scheme of registration of medical practitioners of the homoeopathic system, which would exclude these quacks. At least, insistence upon some minimum requisite qualification can be made. Then only those who possess those qualifications could be registered. But these are all details which I leave to the Government to consider. But I submit that this proposal of giving a trial to the homoeopathic system by way of tackling the question of rural medical relief should be considered by the Government. Thank you, Sir.

* SRI K. V. RAMASWAMY : கனம் அவைத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, சட்ட மன்ற உறுப்பினர்களே, இன்றையதினம் மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் உரையை ஆதரித்து ஒரு சில வார்த்தைகள் கூற முன்வந்துள்ளேன். அந்த முறையில் கவர்னர் உரையில் முக்கியமாகக் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிருக்கிற சில விஷயங்களை உங்களுக்கு எடுத்துக் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். அவர் குறிப்பிட்ட விஷயங்களையெல்லாம் நல்லெண்ணத்தோடும் ஆர்வத்தோடும் நிறைவேற்றி வைக்க இந்த மன்றத்திலுள்ள அங்கத்தினர்கள் எல்லோரும் வேண்டியுள்ள செயலார்கள் என்ற நம்பிக்கையோடு என் அபிப்பிராயத்தைச் சொல்ல முன்வந்துள்ளேன்.

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குறிப்பாக, எங்கள் ஜில்லாவைப் பொறுத்தவரை, அணைக்கட்டுகள் ஏதோ சில இருந்தபோதிலும் கூட, இப்பொழுது புதிதாகப் பரம்பிக் குளத் திட்டம் நிறைவேறப் போகிறது என்பதைக் கேள்விப்பட்டு, மிக்க சந்தோஷம் அடைகிறேன். காரணம் என்னவென்று கேட்டால், கோவை ஜில்லாவில் பல்லடம், பொள்ளாச்சி, உடுமலைப்பேட்டை, தாராபுரம், அவனாசி ஆகிய தாலுக்காக்களில் பல சமயங்களில் தண்ணீர் கிடைக்காமல் பஞ்சம் ஏற்பட்டு மக்கள் மிகவும் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆகவே, அந்த மக்களின் அல்லலைப் போக்க ஒரு நீர்த்திட்டம் நிறைவேறப் போகிறது என்பதைக் கேள்விப்பட்டவுடன் மிக்க சந்தோஷம் ஏற்பட்டது. அந்தத் திட்டத்தை அந்தப் பகுதி மக்கள் மனமோட வரவேற்கிறார்கள். இதுபற்றிப் பல நாட்களாகப் பேச்சு வார்த்தை நடந்து ஒரு முடிவும் ஏற்படாததைக் கண்டு மனம் சலிப்படைந்து, “தங்களுக்குப் பயன்படாத தண்ணீரைக் கொடுக்கக் கூடக் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்களே” என்று கேரள சர்க்கார் மீது கூட சில பேர் வருத்தம் கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். இங்குள்ள கம்யூனிஸ்டு நண்பர்களைப் பார்த்துப்போது, “இங்கு விளைபொருள்களைப் பயிரிடுவதற்குத் தண்ணீர் கூடக் கொடுக்கமாட்டேன் என்கிறார்களே” என்று கூறுவது சகஜமாகியிருந்தது. இதனால் ஒரு பலைமை கூட ஏற்பட்டுவிடலாம் என்ற நிலை இருந்தது. இன்று கேரள சர்க்கார் பரம்பிக்குளத் தண்ணீரைத் தமிழகத்துக்குக் கொடுத்து ஒத்துழைத்தமைக்காகப் பாராட்டுவதோடு நாங்கள் மிகவும் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். அந்த நீர்த் திட்டம் தங்கள் தங்கள் தாலுகாவுக்கும் பயன்படும்படி நிறைவேற்றப்பட வேண்டும் என்று அந்தந்தத் தாலுகா மக்கள் மனுக்களை எழுதிக்கொண்டு தங்கள் பிரதிநிதிகள் மூலமாக மந்திரிகளை நேரில் கணுவருகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் இந்தக் காரியங்களைச் செய்வதைப் பார்த்தால், அவர்களுக்கு விவசாயத்தில் எவ்வளவு ஆர்வம் இருக்கிறது என்பதையும், தண்ணீர் அவர்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு முக்கியமாகத் தேவைப்படுகிறது என்பதையும் நாம் நன்றாக உணர்ந்துகொள்ள முடியும். இந்தப் பரம்பிக்குளத் திட்டத்தின் தண்ணீரை எங்கெங்கெல்லாம் பரவலாகக் கொண்டுபோக முடியுமோ, அங்கெல்லாம் கொண்டுபோய்த் தண்ணீர் கிடைக்கச் செய்யவேண்டும். முக்கியமாகத் தண்ணீர் எந்த பகுதிகளுக்கும், வரட்சியான பகுதிகளுக்கும் இந்தத் திட்டத்தின் மூலமாகத் தண்ணீர் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்ய வேண்டும்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, இந்த நாட்டிலே பஞ்சம் ஏற்படாதவாறு காக்க வேண்டியது நம்முடைய கடமையாகும். உணவு நிலைமைப்பற்றிக் கவர்னர் உரையிலே கூறப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதைப் பார்த்தால், இன்று சில இடங்களில் மழை இல்லாமல் உற்பத்தியில்லாத நிலை ஏற்பட்டிருப்பதையும், பரவலாக விலைவாசி ஏறியிருப்பதையும் உணர்ந்தகொள்ள முடியும். இப்பொழுது விலை ஓரளவு குறைவாக ஆய்மித்திருக்கிறது. உணவுப் பொருள்களின் விலை அதிகமாக இருந்தாலும், இன்று விவசாயி அதிக லாபம் பெற முடியாது. மற்றப் பொருள்களும் அதிக விலைக்கு விற்கிற காரணத்தினால், விவசாயி அதிக லாபம் அடைய முடியாது. விலை உயர்வதுதான் மக்கள் கண்ணுக்குத் தெரிகிறது. இன்று விவசாயப் பொருள்களான எர், இரும்பு சாமான்கள், அம்மோனியம் சல்பேட் ஆகியவைகள் எல்லாம் அதிக விலைக்கு விற்கப்படுகின்றன. ஒரு மூட்டை 30 ரூபாய் என்று விற்கப்பட்டுவந்த அம்மோனியம் சல்பேட் 60 ரூபாய் என்று விற்கப்படுகிறது. இந்த விலை விற்கும்போது, விவசாயி இவையனைல்லாம் எப்படி வாங்கி விவசாயம் செய்ய முடியும்? ஆகவே, இப்படி உணவுப் பொருள்களின் விலை உயருவதை விவசாயிகளுடைய நிலையை மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு பார்த்தால், அது விலை உயர்வாகத் தோன்றுது. விவசாயிக்குத் தேவையான பொருள்களின் விலை குறைந்தால், உணவு தானியத்தின் விலையும் தானாகக் குறைந்துவிடும் என்பது என்னுடைய தாழ்மையான அபிப்பிராயம். ஆகவே, விவசாயிகளுக்கோ வியாபாரிகளுக்கோ பாதகமாக இல்லாத ஒரு விலைக்குத்தான் அதை விற்க வேண்டும் என்று விதித்தால் நன்றாக இருக்கும் என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்கிறேன்.

கூட்டுறவு விவசாயம்பற்றிப் பேசப்படுகிறது. அது ஒரு புறம் இருக்கட்டும்.

[Sri K. V. Ramaswamy] [10th February 1959]

இன்றுள்ள சட்டங்கள் எல்லாமே விவசாயிகளுக்கு அனுசூலமானவையாக இல்லை என்றுதான் சொல்ல வேண்டும். ஒரு உதாரணம் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். நான் ஒரு கூட்டுறவு மார்க்கெடிங் ஸொஸைடியின் செக்ரட்டரியாக இருந்தேன். அந்த ஸொஸைடி, விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து வீண்பொருள்களை வாங்கி வைத்துக்கொண்டு, அவை விவசாயிகளுக்கு அனுசூலமான விலைக்கு விற்கும் காலத்தில் அவைகளை விற்கும். அவ் வாறு விற்பதற்காக விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து புகையிலை போன்ற பொருள்களை வாங்கி வைத்திருந்தோம். ஆனால், அவை விவசாயிகளுக்கு மிகவும் அனுசூலமாக இருக்கும் நல்ல விலைக்கு விற்கக்கூடிய காலம் வரவேயில்லை. ஒரு வருஷத்தில்கூட விவசாயிகளுக்கு அனுசூலமாக இருக்கும் நல்ல விலை வரவேயில்லை. அந்த நிலையில், விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து வாங்கி வைத்திருந்த பொருளையெல்லாம் எலத்தில் விற்க வேண்டியிருந்தது. ஒரு ஆண்டில் கூட விவசாயிகளுக்கு அனுசூலம் ஏற்படவில்லை. அதனால் பல விவசாயிகள், பல மெம்பர்கள், பாதிக்கப்பட்டார்கள். அவ்வாறு பாதிக்கப்பட்டவர்களில் நானும் ஒருவன் என்பதைத் தெரிவிக்க விரும்புகிறேன். கூட்டுறவுச்சட்டங்கள் விவசாயிகளுக்குச் சலுகை அளிக்க முடியாதவைகளாக இருக்கின்றன. அப்பேர்ப்பட்ட சட்டங்கள் விவசாயிகளுக்கு வேண்டாம். அப்பேர்ப்பட்ட சட்டங்களை உடைத்தெறிந்து விட்டு, விவசாயிகளுக்கு நன்மையளிக்கக்கூடிய நல்ல சட்டங்களை இயற்ற வேண்டியது சர்க்காரின் கடமை.

தொழிலாளர்களுக்கும், என்.ஜி.ஓ-க்களுக்கும் நாம் எத்தனையோ சலுகைகளைக் கொடுத்து வந்திருக்கிறோம். நாம் விவசாயிகளுக்கு அவ்வளவு சலுகைகள் அளிக்கவில்லை. விவசாய உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்க வேண்டுமென்று நாம் சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். ஆனால், நாம் விவசாயிகளுக்குப் பேர்திய சலுகைகள் அளிக்கவில்லை. விவசாயிகளுக்குச் சில நன்மைகள் செய்துகொண்டிருக்கிறோம். அவர்களுக்குக் கடன்கள் கொடுக்கிறோம். அவர்களுக்கு நம்மால் கொடுக்கப்படும் கடன்களின் பூரண பலனையும் அவர்கள் அடைய முடிவதில்லை. ஏனென்றால், இடையில் அதிகாரிகள் பெரும் பெருச்சாளிகளாக இருந்து பணத்தைச் சரண்டி வருகிறார்கள். அப்பேர்ப்பட்ட பெருச்சாளிக் கூட்டங்களை அறவே தொலைத்தெறிந்து, சர்க்காரின் பணம் நேரிடையாக விவசாயிகளுக்குக் காலாகாலத்தில் போய்ச் சேரும்படி செய்ய வேண்டியது சர்க்காரின் மிக முக்கியமான கடமை.

விவசாயி, தான் வளர்த்த பயிரின் மூலம் வருமானம் அடைவதற்குள் என்ன கஷ்டப்படுகிறான் என்பது விவசாயத்தில் சுருபட்டவர்களுக்குத்தான் தெரியும். பேருவை வைத்துக்கொண்டு எழுதிக்கொண்டிருப்பவர்களுக்கு அது தெரியாது. பயிரிலிருந்து அறுவடை செய்வதற்குள் அவன் எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டப்படுகிறான். போட்டி விதைகள் முளைத்தால், அந்தக் குருத்துக் களைச் சில பூச்சிகள் கத்தரித்து விடுகின்றன. அவைகள் கொஞ்சம் பெரிய செடிகளாக வளர்ந்த பிறகு, அவைகளை ஆரம்மாடுகள் கடித்துத் தின்றுவிடாதபடி, நிலத்தைச் சுற்றிப் பரந்த வேலி போட வேண்டும். பயிர்களில் கதிர்கள் விளைந்த பிறகு, அவைகளைத் திருடர்கள் திருடிக்கொண்டு போய்விடாமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். பயிர் அறுவடையாகும் வரையில், அதற்குப் பலவிதமான நோய்கள் வரும். பயிர் களை நோய்களிலிருந்து காப்பாற்றுவதற்கு விவசாயி நிறையப் பணம் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்க வேண்டும். விவசாயிக்கு சர்க்கார் பணம் கொடுத்தாலும், சில சாமான்கள் கிடைப்பதில்லை. பூச்சி மருந்தைத் தெளிப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய கருவிகள் கிடைப்பதில்லை. பருத்திச் செடிக் பூச்சி மருந்து தெளிக்க வேண்டுமானால், ஸ்ப்ரேயர் கிடைப்பதில்லை. ஸ்ப்ரேயர் கிடைத்தாலும், அதை அவனுக்குச் சரியாக உபயோகிக்கத் தெரியாது. விவசாயி ஸ்ப்ரேயரை உபயோகிக்கும் விதத்தை எவ்வாறே கற்றுக்கொண்டு அதை உபயோகிக்க ஆரம்பித்தால், அது கெட்டுப்போய்விட்டால் அதை ரிப்பேர் செய்வது கஷ்டம். அதை ரிப்பேர் பண்ணித் திரும்பக் கொண்டு வருவதற்குள் காலதாமதம் ஆகும். விவசாயிகள் இவ்வாறு மிகவும் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள்.

10th February 1959] [Sri K. V. Ramaswamy]

பயிர்கள் அழிந்துபோனால், விவசாயிகள் மிகவும் பாதிக்கப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆகவே, பயிர்களுக்கு இன்ஷூரன்ஸ் செய்யும் திட்டத்தைக் கொண்டு வர வேண்டும். அவ்வாறு செய்தால், அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியும் ஏற்படும். எனவே, பயிர்களுக்கு இன்ஷூரன்ஸ் செய்யும் திட்டத்தை உடனடியாகக் கொண்டுவர வேண்டும் என்று சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

மேலும், இன்று விவசாயக் கூலிகள் கிடைப்பது மிகவும் அரிதாக இருக்கிறது. காரணம், எல்லா இடங்களிலும் மில்கள் ஏற்பட்டுவிட்டன. ஒருவன் மில்லில் வேலைக்குச் சென்றால், உடனே அவனுக்கு 90 ரூபாய், 100 ரூபாய் சம்பளம் கிடைக்கிறது. விவசாயக் கூலிகளுக்கு அவ்வளவு வருமானம் கிடைப்பதில்லை. எனவே, விவசாயக் கூலிகளின் கூலியை நிர்ணயம் செய்ய வேண்டும். மில்களில் வேலை செய்பவர்களின் கூலிக்கும் விவசாயத் துறையில் வேலை செய்பவர்களின் கூலிக்கும் வித்தியாசம் இல்லாத முறையில் இவர்களுடைய கூலியை நிர்ணயிக்க வேண்டுமென்று சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

கடைசியில், உதகையில் சட்ட சபைக் கூட்டம் நடக்கவிருப்பது குறித்து நான் மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். ஆனால், என்னுடைய மதிப்பிற்குரிய தோழர்கள், உதகையில் சட்ட சபைக் கூட்டத்தை நடத்தக் கூடாது என்று கூறுகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் அங்கே நடக்கும் கூட்டத்திற்கு வருவதாக இல்லை என்றும் கேள்விப்படுகிறேன். உதகை மிகவும் குளிர்ச்சியாக இருக்கும்; அது நல்ல இடம். அங்கே அவர்கள் வந்தால், அவர்களுடைய மனமும் நிம்மதியாக இருக்கும். அவர்கள் அங்கே ஒரு தடவை வந்தால், “பிறகு நாங்கள் உதகைக்கு முதன் முதலில் வந்து விடுகிறோம்” என்று சொல்லுவார்கள். எதிர்க்கட்சிக்காரர்கள், “நாம் உதகைக்குப் போக வேண்டாம்” என்று தீர்மானிப்பதுடன் நின்று, “உதகையிலிருந்து கிடைக்கும் யுகலிப்பன் ஆயில் நாம் உபயோகிக்க வேண்டாம்” என்றும் தீர்மானம் போட்டுவிடுவார்களோ என்று அஞ்சுகிறேன். (சிரிப்பு.) அங்கே கிடைக்கும் யுகலிப்பன் ஆயில் உலகம் முழுவதும் உபயோகிக்கப்படுகிறது. எனவே, அவ்வாறு தீர்மானம் போடாமல், அதை உபயோகிக்க வேண்டும் என்று அவர்களை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். உதகை வாசம் நல்ல மலைவாசம். அங்கே வசிப்பதற்காக வெளிநாட்டிலிருந்து தெல்லாம் ஜனங்கள் வருகிறார்கள். அது ஒரு நல்ல ஸ்தலம். பெயரில் காலத்தில் அங்கே போய் இருப்பதற்கான சந்தர்ப்பத்தை உண்டுபண்ணிய சர்க்காருக்கு நாங்கள் மிகவும் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறோம். உதகமண்டலம் சீரும் சிறப்பும் வாய்ந்த ஸ்தலம்.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : அது பாடல் பெற்ற ஸ்தலமா ? (சிரிப்பு.)

* **SRI K. V. RAMASWAMY :** கனம் அங்கத்தினர் ஸ்ரீமதி சுந்தராமாபாள் அவர்கள் அங்கே வந்து பாடினால், ஒரு நிமிஷத்தில் அது பாடல் பெற்ற ஸ்தலமாக ஆகிவிடும்.

நான் பேசிய பேச்சில் குற்றம் குறைகள் இருந்தால், அவைகளுக்காக என்னை மன்னிக்க வேண்டும். கவர்னர் அவர்களுடைய உரையை மனப்பூர்வமாக வரவேற்கிறேன். வணக்கம். ஜெய்ஹிந்த்.

* **SRI L. S. KARAYALAR :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am happy to be privileged to participate in the discussion on the motion of thanks that is being offered in this House to the Governor for his special message in person on the 4th February to a joint session of the Madras Legislature. There is one excellence in his Address which I appreciate very much. It is very brief. I think it is Shakespeare that said that brevity is the soul of wit. So did Cicero. He said that brevity is the recommendation for a speech of a Senator or an orator. From that point of view, I appreciate it very much. I hope it will be briefer and briefer every year.

[Sri L. S. Karayalar] [10th February 1959]

There was a section in the other House which said that there should be no Governor and no Address. That is an institution which was considered sacred, and I do not know whether it is still being considered sacred. Whatever it is, I am not competent to talk on the Governor. The institution of the Governorship has come into hot criticism everywhere. As I said, one Party in the other House would not have the Governor at all. I would rather like to strike a compromise. These Governors do a lot of things. I asked one gentleman with whom I was friendly, soon after he became Governor, 'How do you feel about it?' He said, 'It is an excellent thing. I am asked to take 25 cups of coffee or tea with all sorts of invitees. Of course, they are eminent people. There is a lunch party everyday to which quite a good number of people are invited—most of whom I do not know—followed by dinner parties.' At that time, the Dalai Lama and Panchen Lama visited the headquarters of that State. Dalai Lama was in the Government House and Panchen Lama was in the Government Guest House outside. He said, 'I do not know why Dalai Lama should be here and Panchen Lama in the Government Guest House outside. On the whole it is a fine thing to be a Governor.'

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : How was his health? He was taking 20 cups of coffee or tea.

* SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : Perhaps, he did not sip all the 20 cups.

Sir, I would like to make a suggestion as regards the institution of Governor. If it is made an elected post, there will be no trouble at all. There could be a popular Governor. The Leader of the Opposition in this House knows—he had been to the United States very often—how popular elected Governors are functioning in the United States. Really they are popular, once you elect them. They are bound to be popular. With this small suggestion, I would pass on to the other items in the Governor's Address.

I come from the finest taluk in the State, called Shencottah. It is so tiny that there are only about 50,000 people there. I do not want to criticise this Government as to how they lost their ground as far as Shencottah is concerned. How could this small taluk, which the Reorganization Committee Report said as belonging to Tirunelveli district of Madras State, economically, socially, and geographically, go to Kerala? How did these people succeed in dividing such a small place? It is a heart-breaking affair to cut it into two pieces. Sri Panampalli Govinda Menon just plumped for his own State and put in their claim to this taluk. Apart from this, if only you take a vote in Kanyakumari district and Shencottah, I am sure that 99 per cent of the people would vote for seceding from the Madras State. They would like to go back to Kerala or be a separate State. When Pondicherry or Karaikal could remain separate, why not Shencottah and Kanyakumari district, with a separate culture, with people highly developed in education, in agriculture, and in economy, be a separate State? One thing I want to appeal to this Government. It is not too

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late to get the other part of Shencottah back. It is not difficult to rip open the question. Mistakes have been committed. I do not want to lay the blame at the doors of any one. But a mistake could certainly be rectified. Nothing is lost by getting back that part of Shencottah which we have lost. Soon after integration, there were a few visitors to Shencottah, one was cholera and the other was typhoid, followed, of course, by some Ministers and others later on.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : They did not bring in cholera.

* SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : I was only mentioning the order of sequence. Absolutely there was no connection between the first two and the latter. We had protected water-supply by the then benign Government of Travancore. After integration, it was not chlorinated, and the health condition deteriorated to such an extent. The Travancore Government knew that Shencottah was going to Madras State and, therefore, they ceased to spend money on it for several years, even though they had been doing very beneficial activities before. I would request the Health Minister to bestow special attention on Shencottah taluk.

The next point that I would refer to is one that is agitating the minds of several people of this State. The Governor in his Address has made a special reference to it. I will read that portion from the Address. He says, 'The Government are well aware of the hardships of their Non-Gazetted Officers arising out of the rising trend in prices.' Soon after the Governor mentioned this and soon after he announced the grant of Rs. 5 to the Non-Gazetted Officers, the Non-Gazetted Officers hurriedly called a conference. The Governor made this announcement on the 4th February. The conference was held on the 7th morning in the Rajaji Hall. The Tamil Nad Non-Gazetted Government Officers' Union held that conference. Our Chief Minister was invited to attend and inaugurate that conference. That is as it should be. To whom could the Non-Gazetted Officers go except the Chief Minister for help and succour? The Chief Minister was good enough to go to that conference and inaugurate it. I read in the papers that he wanted to hear the President of the Non-Gazetted Officers' Union speak and then inaugurate the conference. The natural sequence of order was given the go-by. Because the Chief Minister wanted to hear the grievances of the Non-Gazetted Officers, he said he would inaugurate the conference after hearing the President's speech. The President (Sri S. S. Alwarappan) of the Non-Gazetted Officers' Union began to speak. He in his address said that 'Non-Gazetted Officers had suffered greatly in the past 15 years owing to rising prices and inadequate scales of pay, and the relief given by the Government had not been much. Yet they were a very patient set of people. Nowhere in the country could they find Government employees who worked with such a will as in Madras, and they had. . . . Then he went on to ask if only the 60,000 Non-Gazetted Officers refused to work after 5 p.m., how the Government could contemplate action against

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them. Then he went on to say (and this is the interesting point), "I said to my wife that this grant of Rs. 5 had been made. She asked, 'Are you not ashamed to receive this Rs. 5?' " Then there was explosion. The Chief Minister got up and said, "Then why don't you pass a resolution like that and submit it to your wife?" or something like that.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Not to the wife but to the Government.

* SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : It is reported as 'wife' in some papers. The 'Hindu' has reported it as 'Government'. But Sri Alwarappan's speech did cause an explosion.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : It is the fashion now to lose temper when there is no argument.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The Doctor excels him!

* SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : This did create an explosion. Then poor Mr. Alwarappan, the President, who thought that he should inform the Chief Minister the reaction to the grant of Rs. 5, collapsed. Here is the Chief Minister all of a sudden exploding when Mr. Alwarappan talked about his wife's remark. There is nothing wrong in one consulting one's wife, as long as one has a wife. We consult our wives because we have got our wives. The Chief Minister had no woman to consult. Most of our wives are very clever, Mr. Chairman. (Laughter.) They are much cleverer than men. Nothing is lost by that. After all, wives are men's partners in life and they could give good advice. (An hon. Member : The Chairman may also agree with you.) Whether he agrees with me or not, it is a fact and he will not be sorry for that, I suppose. Men will have to travel with their wives in life; and what is wrong in people consulting their wives and asking for their advice? There is absolutely nothing wrong in it. But, still, the Chief Minister got angry at that and the people concerned very nearly collapsed. The Chief Minister then began to preach homilies and said, 'We know your difficulties and we want to help you' and all those things. Why then should he attack the poor Non-Gazetted Officers, I ask. I would like to point out, 'Anger begins in folly and ends in repentance.' It is not what I say, it is what Pythagorus said.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member is very poetic to-day.

* SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Hon. Chairman says that I am poetic today. I was just referring to the maxim given by great men about anger. I shall just refer to some more of them. There is another wise statement, 'The fire that kindles for your enemy often burns yourself more than him.' Again, Marcus Auerilius has said, 'When thou art above measure angry, bethink thee how momentary is man's life.' Mr. R. W. Emerson has stated, 'A man makes his inferiors his

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superiors by heat.' Mr. John Webster has said, 'There is not in Nature a thing that makes man so deformed, so beastly as doth interperate anger.' There is a Malayalam proverb—Mr. Chairman may know it—which states, 'Anger is as a stone cast into a wasp's nest.' There is the statement of another great man, 'When a man is wrong and won't admit it, he always gets angry.' Jefferson has stated, 'When angry, count ten before you speak, if very angry, count hundred.' So, I would like to submit that this sum of Rs. 5 that has been granted to the Government servants is a pittance and when they hold a conference to say that this is a very small sum and that they want more, those in authority need not get angry at them. Under these circumstances, I do not know how the Government are going to give their servants more emoluments. I would appeal to the Government to help these poor Non-Gazetted Government servants as much as possible. The Report of the Central Pay Commission is expected to be published very soon. The Madras Government have also announced that they are going to appoint a Pay Commission under the Chairmanship of Sri K. Ramunni Menon. I have nothing personally to say against him. He has been an able officer under the steel-frame of I.C.S. Officers in this country and he has served this country and State ably under the British regime and more so under the Congress Governments after Independence. Now, however eminent and well-placed he may be, the Non-Gazetted Officers in their recent conference have stated that they have no confidence in him. So, what is the use of appointing a Commission under his Chairmanship? When the Non-Gazetted Officers themselves, for whose benefit and in whose interests this Commission is being appointed, have stated that they have no confidence in him, what is the point in appointing him? When they have stated that that gentleman has lost their confidence, there is no use of saying that there was no dispute between this gentleman and the Non-Gazetted Officers when he was the Chief Secretary. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to consider all these aspects and see that the Central Government servants and the State Government servants are treated on a par and both of them get equal emoluments. Until such a state of affairs is brought about, there is likely to be this discontent. I do not know how long these poor Non-Gazetted servants can remain patient. There is a limit to one's patience. They have exercised their patience till now and there is a limit to it. If we drive them to the breaking-point, the Government will tumble down and the machinery will break completely, and the work will come to a standstill. I would appeal to the Government, on behalf of these poor Government servants, to look into their grievances rather sympathetically. When I talk about the Non-Gazetted Government servants, I am reminded about a statement made by the Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam some two years ago. I think while speaking in the other House, he stated that he would like to take the Non-Gazetted Government servants to the hill stations in rotation so that they too might enjoy the salubrious climate of the hill stations and improve their health. Well, they do not want to go to Ooty or some other hill station and improve their health. Sufficient it will be if the

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Government grant them increased dearness allowance and also increase their salary. Only when this is done, they will be satisfied and will be able to lead a contented life taking, of course, the advice of their wives.

I would now like to refer to one or two important points. I do not propose to take much time of the House. I am not going to talk about land reforms, ceiling on land holdings and all those things. My Friend Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar who is not only eloquent but also convincing, has given facts and figures. He knows the facts through and through. He has put up a very strong case as regards ceiling on land holdings and land reforms. I should like to say that this Government should have some sort of definite opinion about things. One Minister says something in Madras and says something different in Nagpur. We see that the Minister who was a roaring lion in Madras suddenly and swiftly changes into a bleating lamb in Nagpur and gives an opinion at Nagpur which is exactly contra to what he has given expression to in Madras. How swiftly and quickly men change! Very strange and curious indeed! I am simply unable to understand all these things. They say one thing in Madras, another in Hyderabad and yet another in Nagpur and so on. Take, for instance, the textile policy. A Minister attends a textile conference and says something there. The same Minister, while inaugurating a handloom conference, says that handloom goods are really very good and that they should be encouraged. Again, when the same Minister presides over another conference, Ambar Charka Conference, he says that it is only Khadar that is very good and that it should be encouraged. In this manner, they go on changing their opinions. They must have some sort of opinion, definite opinion, so to say, on these matters. One Minister says, 'Do not go to cinemas. It is all bad. Save that money and put it in Small Savings Scheme.' But, only yesterday, we find the Minister opening a cinema theatre. There should be some definite opinion on these matters. What is their policy with regard to the textiles, the cinemas, the handloom industry and so many other things? The people of this State are entitled to know that. There is so much of confusion about these things.

Now, the Ministers have always been asking for the co-operation of the other Parties. As far as my group is concerned, there is always our co-operation available and there is no difficulty about it. I would like to point out in this connection how our group-men, our partymen, are treated—not by these Ministers—they are eminent men, they have been my colleagues and I know them for over 20 to 25 years and I know them, as a matter of fact, much better than any other Member in the Opposition in this House

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ : Who knows, you may come back to this side.

* SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : So, I do not refer to the Ministers, but I only refer to the small Congress bosses in the districts. I

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refer to the District Congress Presidents, Taluk Congress Presidents, Town Congress Presidents and so on. These people are going about ordering Sub-Inspectors, Inspectors of Police and even District Superintendents of Police in certain cases. I can quote chapter and verse. The Hon. the Minister for Revenue is looking at me very keenly. I have got a Memorandum on this matter and I shall be presenting the same to him this evening. It contains eight full foolscap pages. I know they would like to have specific instances for taking action. It contains hundreds of specific instances in which the Congressmen have interfered with the duties of the Police, Revenue and other authorities. My Party is not the sort of Opposition Party which just attacks the Party in power in the Council and stops at that. At various levels, we have contact with the masses. We hold conferences and we attack there also. We hold mass conferences just as the Congress does. I can quote several instances in which these Congressmen, I mean the small Party bosses, are trying to implicate our Party members in serious criminal cases like loot, kidnapping, murder, etc. I can substantiate every one of them. It is not as if I am talking on an 'airy nothing' or on vaporous things or anything of the sort. I can prove every one of these things to the Ministers concerned. Therefore, I would appeal to these Ministers to control their partymen to the best of their ability. I know it is very difficult to control all the petty bosses. I also know that the Party is cracking from Kanyakumari to Corjeevaram. We hear news about the President of the Kanyakumari District Congress Committee resigning and also the President of the Chingleput District Congress Committee resigning. I know the Party is cracking. So, to the best of their ability, let them try to control their partymen from interfering with the administration.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Chairman, I am afraid the hon. Member is going far beyond the scope of the subject under discussion in the House. I know the hon. Member has got a lot of criticism to make against the Party in power. But, this is not the forum for that purpose.

* SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : I am not criticising the Party. I am criticising the partymen for interfering with officials. I am not criticising the Party as such. I am not criticising the All-India Congress Party. . .

3-30
P.m.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The resignation of the President of the District Congress Committee of Chingleput and other such things are not matters relevant to the discussion on the Governor's Address, Sir.

* SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : The President in his resignation letter says that it was because of the way in which the Party was doing things and the way in which the Government were doing things, and he explains. That is how I am relevant here, Mr. Chairman.

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Sir, one more point and I shall have done. I have several points. But there are waiting very eminent Members to take the floor of the House and, therefore, with one more point I shall finish.

Sir, I say it with the greatest respect, with the utmost respect. I do not want to be misunderstood on this point. I have the greatest respect for you, Mr. Chairman. It concerns you, Mr. Chairman, as Chairman of this House. Sir, you appointed a few days ago two Committees and a Panel of Vice-Chairmen. Sir, you have appointed the Business Advisory Committee and the Committee on Government Assurances and a Panel of four Vice-Chairmen for this Council. Sir, we have been functioning, though not as a Party, as a group, a distinct group; we might be only two, but we represent millions of the people. I thought that the business of this House was as much a concern of our group as it was of anybody else. I find so many Congressmen in the Business Advisory Committee. The Hon. the Leader of the House and the Chief Whip can quite well serve the Party and nobody else is necessary. If, as the Hon. the Leader of the House claims, it is such a regimented and disciplined Party, the Leader of the House is enough and nobody else is necessary. Sir, the implementation of Government Assurances is as much our concern as of anybody else in this House.

As far as the Panel of Vice-Chairmen is concerned, I have to state none of us has been appointed. But in that you have to see whether a person is fit and all that. I will leave it to you, Sir. But about these two Committees, I am talking. Sir, I want to reassure you of our support. Mr. Chairman, your impartiality, integrity, and none of those things have been questioned by me. As a matter of fact, the conduct of the deliberations of this House is being done with the greatest credit not only to the City of Madras, not only to the State, but to you and to those in our House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Karayalar, I want to explain to you the composition of this Committee. This is a Committee that is reconstituted at the commencement of every session and if from your group nobody was taken, I can assure you it was not done with any purpose. It comes by rotation. I am here to preserve the rights and privileges of every Member in this House and wherever I am concerned, I am doing things absolutely impartially here. There is not the slightest intention of ignoring your group. (Cheers).

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am deeply grateful to you for giving me this indulgence of speaking on the last day of the debate. I should have preferred an earlier day, but I could not do so because of circumstances and, therefore, I apologise to other hon. Members also who have preceded me in their comments upon the Governor's Address, for I was very anxious to know what they were likely to say about it.

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Sir, the Governor's Address is about the shortest that I have seen during the last eleven years, I shall also add, the sweetest I have ever heard. But the facts are otherwise. I am not a person to brush over facts. The Governor in his Address, which he has been pleased to deliver to the joint session of the Madras Legislature, has stated that 'beneath the seeming conflict of political ideologies', he has noted with considerable relief and pleasure an undercurrent of basic unity towards the common purpose of promoting the welfare of the people of this State. 'It is this constructive approach which has enabled you to record inside the House and in the various Committees of the Legislature', he continues, 'many agreed decisions on controversial subjects like the Union language, educational policy, panchayat legislation and student-participation in politics, all of which have evoked appreciative comments throughout the country'. I shall strongly endorse these sentiments, as they come from a person who is independent of political ideologies, at least so long as he is the Governor of the State. But I should like to state that when Members speak in this Council and refer to the Opposition as not giving constructive suggestions but trying to criticise the Government, they are less than charitable to the Members of the Opposition. At least Members of the Opposition in this Council, as I have very often referred to, in their proceedings and utterances have not spoken with any degree of irresponsibility in their criticisms. They have always given more often than not constructive suggestions to the Government which, I am sorry to say, have not received that amount of consideration which an Opposition Party is entitled to expect. The hon. Member Mr. Gajapathy Nayagar is not here and if he were here, I would have made it clear to him. Anyhow, on another occasion I shall quote the several instances where, at least the Opposition considered it so, constructive criticisms had been offered and yet there was little or no response from the Treasury Benches.

Sir, this policy that the Governor has referred to with so much approbation is a policy which has been undoubtedly brought into existence within the last two years. He is right when he refers to controversial matters having been settled by this sort of approach. As one who was privileged to participate practically in all these measures, I can say that whatever ideologies people might have and whatever might be the method by which they would impress the public with their views on certain political ideologies, when they sat down in Committees, every one of them was found to be extremely reasonable, as reasonable as the Members behind the Treasury Benches. But for this fact, this conclusion could not have been arrived at. But what is the result, Sir? The result has been, unfortunately, that this policy has not appealed to many other Ministers and has certainly not been incorporated by them as a policy which ought to be followed. I shall refer to that at a later stage.

One other observation I should like to make and it is that I believe that this Governor's Address is meant largely to consider

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the policies of the Government, largely to see what their policies were in the past and what their policies are likely to be in the future. Especially at present, when policies are being dictated to and being incorporated by the Government, I think every Member of the Legislature has a right to know what exactly the Government propose to do. In recent years, it has often been stated that the functions undertaken by the Centre have increased so enormously that the State Governments have been, in more senses than one, adopting their policies to suit those of the Centre, not merely in essentials, but in almost every aspect of national life. It is for this reason that I feel that when we are considering the policy of the State Government, we are considering the policy of the Centre, the policy adumbrated by the Party in power there, whether it be at political gatherings or at other conferences. As I have seen the development of the State policy, I can only say that today we are not in a position to state whether we can adumbrate any policy worth mentioning. For any policy of the State, we have often to wait and see what the policy will be at the Centre, which we are bound to follow, whether there has been any discussion or not, whether there has been any consultation or not and whether there has been any attempt to find out the other point of view or not.

3.40
p.m.

Sir, many hon. Members have referred to various points connected with their constituencies and their grievances, which they legitimately ought to bring to the notice of the Government later. While I do appreciate that attitude, still, I venture to express the hope that in future such grievances will legitimately be brought to the notice of this House at the time of the discussion on the Budget and that so far as the Governor's Address is concerned, we will concentrate more largely on policy as to how it is affecting the future welfare of the citizens. I venture to express with certainty the hope that hon. Members will realise, whether they speak from the Opposition Benches or from the Treasury Benches, we are equally concerned with the welfare of the common people. I am sorry to say that a very cheap method of disposing of our criticisms of those policies is adopted, which is not really in the interests of the welfare of the people. I should like to ask hon. Members to take the view whether we are not of the pick. Are we suffering? Are we Stateless persons working here or are we some strangers come here to speak without a realization of what the people really want and what the people should have? I am sure, Sir, that if the proper point of view is borne in mind, it will no longer be said and it will no longer be possible for anybody to dismiss criticism on the mere ground that the person concerned is not aware of the conditions of life in the country or of the rural folk or of the more pressing problems with which the bulk of our citizens are concerned. It would, therefore, be necessary for the Government in any State, for the Government in the Centre also to realise that there can be an opposite point of view and that to brush it aside or to make light of it or even to criticize it severely, is not a policy which a statesman should adopt.

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Sir, there has been some comment with regard to some of the statements that have been made in the Address. I should like to refer, before passing on to other more serious questions to one of these statements that have been made. It has been stated and many persons who took part in this debate have stated that the Government have taken a very wise step indeed in arriving at what is known as a settlement with the Kerala Government over what is called the distribution of the waters of Parambikulam. I pay a tribute to the Government not because we get a few thousands of acres to be irrigated, not because we have a few more hundreds of thousands of kilowatts, but because of this essential act which has been recognized in other parts of India more than in our own State that here were two Governments side by side situated with ideologies which are supposed to be different and yet by coming together, by discussing by personal equation of all factors, it has been possible for one who occupied the Presidentship of the Congress for a long time and who was the Chief Minister and his Colleagues to come to some agreement with another Chief Minister who certainly does not and will not subscribe to Congress ideologies. I congratulate the Government on this fact that that is the attitude that ought to be adopted. What do we find in our own State? I have always complained that the Members of the Legislature have not been fortunate enough to know the mind of the Government on many of the most important topics with which the State is confronted. Let me refer to one. On all important issues like the First and the Second Five-Year Plans—and I have been here years before the First Plan itself was started—there was never an occasion when the Members of the Legislature were consulted or were made acquainted with the views of the Government. Is that right? After all is said and done, Governments come and go but we in the Legislature continue for ever—I am not referring to individuals. Members on the Treasury Bench translate themselves to various other more important functions. I remember an occasion when a Revenue Minister here piloted a very important Bill on zamindari abolition and while I referred to the fact that there was only one Minister present on that occasion, he remarked, 'I have noted everything that you have all said. I shall certainly consider what could be done'. What happened afterwards? A week after the passing of the Zamindari Abolition Bill, he was transferred to the high office of the Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee. All that exhausted energy that we brought to play on the criticism of that Bill, constructive or destructive as you may think, was nowhere because it happened that none of the others were interested in hearing us. I am not complaining. As a matter of fact, as they have got very many more important duties, I never expect Ministers to be present here to listen to the poor speeches of the hon. Members of the Legislature. They have got more important functions which they have got to do—to tour and do all important work connected with many opening ceremonies and the like and know the various things that are being done in order to keep a hold or touch with the various movements and with the trends of popular opinion because we legislators do

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not go to every place. I do not mind but I ask, 'Could not this policy that has produced very good results be promoted in other ways also?' Let me give you another instance. The Finance Commission was appointed, a very important Commission indeed to deal with the future of the finances of the State. None of us were ever in the know of what the Finance Commission was going to report on. None of us were informed what the Madras Government's proposals were with regard to the Finance Commission and it came to some of us as a rude shock that some important problems of the State were never before the Finance Commission. I refer in particular to higher education, University education. All that I plead is that Hon. Members on the Treasury Bench and others supporting them from behind should realise that in these matters they have a part to play as much as we have. They were not consulted, I know, and if, therefore, this Government want really to see that the views of the people are made known, the policy that has been followed in the past particularly by the Education Minister—I can say that because he is not here at present—is a policy that is worth while emulating by other Ministers as well. I cried myself hoarse for a committee of that nature to look into the question of medical education and health, but so far, at any rate, the Hon. the Health Minister has turned a deaf ear because probably that is not one of the things which he appreciates.

Now, Sir, I come to an important subject. Speaking of policies naturally brings me to one of the most important and urgent problems agitating the minds of the people in this sub-continent. Reference has been made in the Governor's Address to what is called the 'vexed question' of land reforms, a particularly appropriate expression which I really relish, and, therefore, I looked up in the dictionary the meaning of the word 'vexed' and what a vexed question meant. The Dictionary—the Oxford Concise Dictionary—says that the word 'vexed' means 'annoying, troubled, much disputed or contested' and 'a vexed question' is one that is 'much discussed, difficult to settle'. (Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar: These are all together annoying.) The word and the qualifying other phrase would aptly express the viewpoint of a very large number of the people who are concerned with it, not because they hold lands. I have none and, therefore, I am not interested. But I think undoubtedly His Excellency was perfectly right and he certainly garnered the opinions, the fears, the hesitations and the great troubles that might arise when he referred to this question as a 'vexed question'.

Sir, in such a large and important matter, is it desirable that we should brush aside criticism and that we should ignore any opinion expressed on such a question, which is not in consonance with the views of the Party in power, and that persons who express this view should be criticised as persons with vested interests or persons who are unable to visualise the future? We have had many changes during the last ten or eleven years,

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Certainly, we are most grateful for many of the good things that have been done. I am not one of those who believe that this Government, the Central Government and many State Governments—not all—have not done remarkably good work for the amelioration of the condition of the citizens of this country. I know with what great influence representatives in India can play their part in international circles. We know the Leader of the House has played a notable part in two of the most important international gatherings, the I.L.O. and the U.N.O. But when things which are grave and which are still agitating the minds of the people are considered, one can only say that more and more dispassionate, quiet and deflative thinking will be all to the good of the country. We did say when the States Reorganization Commission's Report was placed before the House and even before the States Reorganization Commission was appointed that it would lead to a great deal of difficulty in the future, that fissiparous tendencies would be promoted, that there would be unhealthy rivalries and that provincialism, linguism and several other isms would creep in in the wake of reorganization of States, particularly if, as I thought, they were to be reorganized on a linguistic basis. The Hon. the Minister for Education contradicted me—it is all in the proceedings—saying that reorganization would be only on a geographical basis and for ensuring administrative convenience and that it would not be on a linguistic basis. Well, Sir, we have heard our friends here and we have heard many others. We know what is taking place in every State which has been reorganized. I have been through the length and breadth of India. I need not mention the name of any State. Is there any one State which is happy after reorganization of States? Is there one State which has not got more troubles and more problems facing it than it ever had before? Well, therefore, we say: 'In considering all large questions which go to the root of our life and culture and which disembowel traditions of thousands of years, reflect, do not be too confident; do not jump to conclusions; think of the possibility of alternatives; and point out alternatives and solve them.'

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Then, I come to this. The Constitution provides two lists. One is the Central List and the other the State List. There is a third one also called the Concurrent List. I have got the Constitution here and I may be corrected if I am wrong. All questions pertaining to agriculture, pertaining to any problems of land reform, pertaining to any tax on agriculture and pertaining to estate duty on agriculture are in the State List. That is why, Sir, on a particular occasion when there was a proposal that this Government should give up their taxation power on agricultural income in respect of certain estate duties, I ventured to express the opinion that it was not desirable to do so. And the motion which was introduced in the House at that time and debated for two hours was withdrawn after lunch time by my Friend, Mr. Madhava Menon, who was then the Leader of the House. Subsequently, of course, as often happened, we have surrendered our judgment to persons who think they know better and State

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initiative is gone. Anyway, I ask, 'Is this question of ceiling and other allied things to be settled only on an all-India basis with all the differences there are between States and States in the methods of agriculture?' I ask again, 'Are we to be led by others in all such matters?' We were the first to enact the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act. We were the first to ensure that there was parcelling of the produce between the tenant and the so-called owner of the land. We were the first to say—I am not sure about it; if I am wrong, I may be corrected by my hon. Friend Mr. Balasubramanya Ayyar for, not owning any land I do not know what exactly it is—that the ratio should be 60 : 40, that is, 60 per cent of the produce for the tiller and 40 per cent for the owner who was the person that had the patta, who supplied bulls and manures and watched the operations by going round in the morning and in the evening or by sending one of the relatives of his to do the job and who sometimes was shown a quick exit from this world. That is the position of the owner of the land.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR: He pays land revenue also.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: Yes; he pays land revenue also. So, we are in the forefront of land reform. Therefore, the Hon. the Minister for Finance spoke so strongly at the Hyderabad session of the Congress. I am sure he spoke what he felt convinced about. I was very happy that he spoke in the way he did. But what happened at Nagpur, my Friend must know better than I do. In every sort of advance, Madras has led. Prohibition Act, we were the first to introduce. What happens today? We have introduced the Prohibition Act throughout the State. I am glad we have done it. I am not an opponent of Prohibition. But which other State has got it? Bombay? I do not know whether Greater Bombay has got it now. I do not know if other States have got it. If they have, they have three days of Prohibition and four days for annulling the evil effects of Prohibition. Bengal has got it? No. Has the Centre of Grace, Delhi, got it? No. You are the people who started it and stick to it. All honour to you. Then, remember that an all-India policy is never followed by many of your colleagues in other States. Correct me, if I am wrong. We were the first to introduce sales tax. Even now, have all other States introduced it? You will be surprised to know that some of the States are not even considering it and many of them have got a much lower rate of tax than we have. By all means, let us have the sales tax; let us have the agricultural income-tax and all other taxes that we can think of. But over and above all this, we are at the mercy of that great day—February 28—when we shall know what further will happen to us. Taxes have been piled upon us. We have done so much for the tenant and so much to secure some amount of justice between the tenant and the owner of the land. Now, you come forward and say that you will impose ceiling on land holdings. I am sure, knowing this Government as I have done for many years, Madras will be the first to

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impose ceiling on agricultural holdings. There can be no doubt about it and you take the credit. But the cash will go to somebody else. What is the ceiling that they are speaking of? Have they considered what it is? Has anybody, except the economist of a particular hue who would always sing to the tune of certain opinions expressed by certain persons, considered it? What is it that you are going to do? For the first time and only for the first time, I am grateful to the Hon. Prime Minister of India for having thrown some little light on this question. And still, we are in the dark. What is to happen to the other lands after fixing the ceiling? Is there going to be any compensation? Such a question would never be answered. For, we see that every Act is amended on the basis that compensation is an unnecessary burden on the poor people. The same thing will happen here also. A geometrical method of calculation will be evolved whereby the multiplication of a certain sum will result in a figure nearer zero than otherwise. This happened when zamindaris were abolished. It has happened in many other cases of land reform. Sir, I wish to raise again my feeble voice of protest as an individual citizen that once the ethics and the morality of the Hindu idea of justice and fairplay are rooted out of the soil, you will be creating a new order of society about which you may not be sure where it will lead us to. Let me not be misunderstood. I am not for one moment suggesting that the poor people should not have any share in our wealth. I do not say they should be sacrificed. Enormous sums of money are being collected by way of tax. How are they utilized? We know only what is collected. We do not know what the expenditure is. That is a matter for the sweet will and pleasure of the authorities concerned. Once again, Madras is the only State which is curbing the expenditure because, for one thing, it has no funds. It has surrendered everything to the Centre and, therefore, it waits Micawberlike for the little droppings of the leaves from time to time. I do not want to go into the matter at greater length. But I do feel that the opinions expressed by very experienced persons should not be brushed aside and that they should not be considered as opponents of a particular scheme. Here, we are all trying to do what best we can. Even in this late stage, I would beg of the State Government to consider whether they may not, on their own initiative, appoint an independent and impartial committee to go into this question. It should be a committee consisting not merely of their own officers but also persons who know something and also statesmen who can advise us and then they should come to a correct decision. Let not once more Madras be the leader in obeying the mandate as it has so often happened in the past.

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Sir, reference has been made to the recommendations of the Legislature Committee on Education. I am here to say with confidence and with a certain amount of inside knowledge, how valuable the policy of this Government has been, a policy which is being copied by many other States but imperfectly. When we realized that the Constitutional edict that free and compulsory education

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should be given to children up to fourteen years of age, was not a practical proposition, we said that we would give it to children up to eleven years of age. We could do only what is practicable. We should try to see that we are honest in our efforts, honest in inducing the people of the State to realise the situation. The poorest State in the whole of India, with the probable exception of one other State, has given the largest amount to the educational field. We speak of the success of the midday meal scheme. We speak of the grants being given for making schools much more efficient and attractive. We speak of the large endowments that are being given every month and every year for higher education, technological education, polytechnics and various other things. Show me another State in the whole of India which can be said to be even remotely comparable to the charity, philanthropy and large-heartedness of the people of Madras. I bow to them in reference. Therefore it is I pray that we should not leave out all these considerations and say, we must line up and we must follow the lead, without realising how much we owe to our people. I went to Tanjore the other day to see the beautiful college situated in the midst of wet land. About 1,000 acres of valuable land have been given for building that college there. So, people are willing, and do not force them to do according to your edict. They have a little conscience and they have a little fear of God still left in this part of India. I say that with a great deal of emotional stress. Do not destroy that Godly spirit that is in the people of this country.

Sir, I now come to another grave problem. I am referring to it because we have the good fortune to have as the Hon. the Leader of the House, a person well-versed in this problem and who is—I would not say, creating the problem—trying to solve this problem. It is rare that we get a labour leader to step into the shoes of the Minister in charge of Labour. I am glad that on this occasion we have such a person as the Labour Minister although in other countries the Minister in charge of Labour is known for his ignorance of the subject rather than his profound knowledge. It is a well-known principle that if the Minister knows too much, the advice of his technical assistant will not be cared for and will be brushed aside. I well remember that when the Ministry was formed in 1929, there was a retired Superintending Engineer, Mr. Arakiaswamy Mudaliar, who wanted very much to be in charge of the Engineering portfolio. But the Governor said: 'You know too much of the engineering profession. Your interest has been pre-determined and your policies will have already been made up for you. So, I would rather ask you to take up the medical portfolio instead of engineering'. He compensated him by giving him another professional portfolio.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: Our Health Minister is a lawyer.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR: I will tackle him on another occasion.

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I want to say this not because I do not realize the difficulties. I do realise them very much indeed. But, Sir, if the present trends are allowed to continue in this country, then I have no doubt whatsoever that we shall be not under a law that we know of but under a regime, of which we shall be mortally afraid. What is happening all round?

The strike of dock labourers, which was started somewhere for some cause, became an All-India strike and crores of rupees were lost, and foreign exchange also was lost. There were also steamer charges, diversion of trade and many other things which I need not mention. I am sure everybody connected with trade and commerce realize these things. Time and again, this pistol pointed at the head of the Government or the public is not the safest or best method of improving the condition of labour. I know that attempts are being made to effect some sort of reconciliation for a period of five years or whatever that period may be. I think nobody is in a better position than the Hon. the Leader of the House to try to see that something permanent is done in this matter. After all is said and done, who suffers? The poor taxpayers have to pay for all the loss of revenue and for all the other incidental factors which I need not mention. And eventually by some process a certain amount of reconciliation is made. I feel that there should be a different method of tackling all these labour problems. I also feel that the Hon. Minister should make it quite clear that any attempt at a 'Go Slow Policy' in regard to labour is not in the national interest. I am not referring to it in the interest of any particular person but it is not in the national interest to adopt such a policy. Fortunately, we in this State are very much better served by labour and I am very grateful for that. But there are trends which have got to be watched and it would be much better to watch those trends before any conflagration takes place.

Sir, there are other problems which have been stirring the minds of the people. There has been a great deal spoken about the State Trading Corporations. People have written about it. I do not know anything about State Trading, but this much I know. A few years ago, when there was great shortage of firewood, the State took upon itself the responsibility of State Trading and all the firewood depots were under the control of the State Government. Later we got the report that we had to give a write-off on account of the deficiency in the firewood. Fifty per cent of the firewood was not there and the explanation given by the concerned gentleman was that the loss was due to dryage. I hope you understand what it means. But I venture to suggest that instead of this 'age', i.e., dryage, the 'age' pilferage could well be applied. That is the position in some cases. In the case of State Trading, it is not the Minister that can be so much interested and that can control it. It is not even the officers belonging to the Civil Service or Administrative Service but someone unknown, unknowable in the remote corners, that has got the grip of the whole situation and because it is a State Trading Scheme, he feels that he is the master of the show. When the Labour Party got

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into power for the first time effectively in England, certain labourers went to the railway stations and spread themselves in big groups and refused to move. When asked, they said, 'Labour has come into power; so all these things are ours now; you need not trouble us; this is our property'. Well, a similar situation may arise here in course of time, and we have to be rather careful. I have no objection to the establishment of State Trading Corporations. But, here and now, I would say that a strict account of the State Trading Corporations should be available to every Legislative Council and Assembly in every State and the Centre. They ought to submit themselves to periodical checks by audit which are independent. In every case, there should be a further scrutiny at the highest level. What is more? There should be a review from time to time of the activities of the State Trading Corporation. We had some State trading in foodgrains. What happened? May I say that it was found that some of the foodgrains were stocked for so long a time in a particular State that they were afterwards suddenly removed on being condemned by the health authorities and thrown into the Hooghly? I do not want to draw a dark picture about it. I wish the enterprise every success. But I must sound a note of warning. Mr. Chairman, I was very much worried over a few months past about the unfortunate controversy between what was called the private sector and the public sector. I do not know where the difference comes. This appellation had no application to those who were supposed to deal with the private enterprise or joint stock companies, or some other term was given to them. But to-day, the term 'private sector' is used by some people. While I fully appreciate the necessity for the public sector in some places and in some necessary pursuits, I do think it is not right to condemn the private sector, because there have been black sheep here and there. May I say once again with due deference to my State, which has been singularly free of black sheep even in the private sector, at least to the extent to which such black sheep seem to be very prevalent in a particular geographical area, which I shall not mention, that this wholesale condemnation of the private sector is neither justifiable nor fair? I only say that whatever sector it may be, it should be efficient and that it should be run honestly. It must be in the interests of the people concerned. Some of these people who are running the public sector are absolutely indifferent to the people concerned. The State Bus Transport is the best example of public sector enterprise, where more often than not, the driver has no appreciation of the rules of the road. If casualties occur, they are inevitable. Nobody worries about this. I have said that every year there must be a statement of all the road casualties that occur, the persons who are responsible therefor, and the conditions under which such calamities occur. Everyday we read in the papers of a child of three or five years or a boy of 12 years or an old woman of sixty—who can live twenty years longer in the present circumstances—being run over. In America, as the Hon. the Leader of the House knows, every single death due to this sort of casualty is notified in the papers. What is worse? Consistent with American civilisation, they anticipate the number of deaths that may be

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recorded when there is a public holiday for two or three days. They say that if public holidays come, there will be 465 deaths, and when the public holidays are over, there may be 630 deaths. That is the state of mind which the American civilisation is attuned to. But we cannot do that. We feel a tremor in our bodies when an unfortunate casualty like this occurs.

(Deputy Chairman in the Chair.)

Sir, I have referred to the fact that there are few things left for the State to do unless they do them not in conformity with the directives that have been given. There has been so much talk of the food situation. I have repeatedly ventured to suggest without any effect (or mine has been a foolish suggestion) that so long as there is the Central control over food in India, the food problem can never be solved. I want to give you the reason why. If for the whole of Europe, Geneva should be the centre to control the situation, that will not work. What is happening at present is that the surplus States are not revealing their stocks and that the deficit States are exaggerating their deficits. Fortunately or unfortunately, Nature is blamed for everything that happens, and frantic attempts are made to appeal by telegram and by other means to Central authorities to divert food here and there. There is complete chaos and confusion. I can assert that the food problem will never be solved unless the State is made responsible for its own stocks and unless the State, as in former times, except in grave emergencies, is made to realise its duty for the supply of foodgrains. What is happening now? The Government say that food is not available. Thousands of acres of wet land have been converted into sugarcane plantations. Is sugar more important than food for the common man for whom abundant sympathy is poured out of our hearts? Who is there to question? Not in Madras I say, but I know the places that have done it. I have been seeing this vandalism of good agricultural land—finest land that one can have—being converted into sugarcane plantation. Who is to control this? Not the Food Minister, because politics comes in there. After all, vote is a very valuable thing, and in all these matters it is more valuable than the supply of food. Sir, long before any of these great enterprises was made, people here said, 'Let us concentrate on simple things; let us concentrate on minor irrigation works; let us concentrate on digging wells; let us concentrate on giving electric power to pump out water from the wells'. Somehow or other, the directive from the Centre was different, and therefore it is that very little was possible to be done by the State. The position to-day is indeed next to ordinary. We have many authorities with whom we have to negotiate. Frequent meetings have got to be held. Ministers have to be summoned. The more the conferences of Ministers, the greater is the delay in effecting proper reforms. I am sorry to say this. The Health Ministers recently met and they decided that they should tackle one or two problems which from the dawn of civilisation we had been tackling. What has happened to water-supply? Nothing. What has happened to rural sanitation? Nothing. What has happened to eradication of smallpox and cholera? One hon. Member was rather critical of the Ministers going after the

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outbreak of epidemic like cholera and smallpox. I think it is very kind of them to have gone there. It is the medical men that should go. I think we ought to thank the Ministers for having gone and visited those affected places. To-day in the City of Madras smallpox is raging. This reports that are circulated bear no relation to the actual condition of affairs. We know that. Yet, Sir, we are powerless. Directives to Government come from other parts. Where is the Planning Commission, a very great body with plenty of power but without any responsibility? It is not responsible to anybody. There is the Central Government, which is anxious to help everybody, but with the power to collect taxes and with no directive to spend those taxes. They do according to their wish. There is, after all, the great Party organ which must necessarily function. Whenever the Party organization meets at its annual conferences and when the Lok Sabha meets for the Budget discussion, we are in tremor as to what is going to happen, what new ideas may come out, and what new fundamental changes will be effected in society. Sir, I venture to suggest that in those circumstances if sometimes a feeling creeps in in some of us whether democracy after all is functioning, as it ought to in India, this doubt which the people may entertain must not be considered an estrangement from the ideals of democracy.

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One little incident. There is reference to the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, which is going to be amended because of a Supreme Court's, or Madras High Court's and Supreme Court's decision. I am sorry to have to refer to it in the presence of an ex-Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Somehow, they have decided that certain provisions of the Act are not in consonance with the intention of the Legislature or something like that. The first thing the Government thought of was, 'Well, change the Act'. It is so simple. Time and again, we have said that when a decision of the Supreme Court or the High Court goes against a particular Act, unless it is recommended by the Honourable Judges of the respective Courts that certain portions of the Act should be amended or clarified, it is much better to accept that decision or at least to give reasonable time for people to realise that it is a judicial decision which ought to be respected and that then they can change it if they want. But, what do we find now? With the velocity of a Sputnik, Acts are amended immediately the Supreme Court or the High Court gives the judgment against them. Under these circumstances, I was recently completely taken by surprise when a statement was reported to have been made by a very great personality that Ordinances had become the order of the day and that it was entirely wrong for Ordinances to be issued by the Governors of the States and the President of the Union. I do not know what the Hon. the Leader of the House has got to say on this. I am not prepared to go to that extent. But, it is a little surprising to me that such a statement should have been made by no less a personality than the Speaker of the Lok Sabha who has himself to adjust differences there. I think such decisions ought to be questioned only in an Assembly of this nature or a Council of this nature by saying that 'Ordinances are issued indiscrimi-

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nately by the President and the Governors which is against the principle of democracy'. While I entirely agree that there may be a great deal of truth in that statement, I venture to suggest that it is not desirable that such a statement should be made by a person who is to sit in judgment as it were from his high office in the Lok Sabha.

Sir, may I end by quoting a small, little paragraph from a book which is entitled, "Majority Rule and Minority Rights"?

"Here is one of the arresting differences between the democratic state and every other kind of state, that a democracy educates for continuous and active citizenship, whereas other forms of Government educate only for passive obedience—and technical skills. The *sine qua non* of a successful democracy is that all citizens think for themselves about all issues that may arise; the requirement of successful totalitarianism is that citizens obey those who think for them."

I shall now leave it to you to think for yourselves how far this is applicable under the present circumstances. Thank you, Sir.

* SRI P. S. KRISHNASWAMY AYYANGAR: Mr. Deputy Chairman, I stand to support the Motion of Thanks to the Governor for his Address. I shall confine my observations to only one portion of the Address. It is consoling to note that adequate relief will be given to areas which have become famine-stricken this year. I want to refer to only this portion simply because I come from a part of the State where there are famine conditions prevailing. I come from the east Ramanathapuram area which consists of two kinds of areas. One of them is entirely dependent upon rain and the other is fed by the important river that runs through that portion, that is, the Vaigai river. The rain-fed area did not have sufficient rain this year. Therefore, the crops have failed entirely and the villagers are migrating from those villages to other parts of the State such as the Tanjore district in the hope of getting some living. Almost all the villages have been emptied. This is the state of things in the villages where the lands depend entirely on rain for crops. As regards the areas fed by river Vaigai, this year in the catchment area of that river, there was not enough rain. So, many of the parts fed by that river had also to experience conditions of drought. Crops have failed in several parts. In some parts, the crops which have not yet died would die if supply of water is not given to them in a few days. There was a good deal of agitation in those parts, people held conferences and passed resolutions and sent them to the Government requesting them to see that water was found for them somehow or other so that the area might be saved from famine conditions. Now, the Government woke up. Our aim, our goal and our objective is the establishment of a Welfare State and bringing about of a socialistic pattern of society. This fact was also brought to the notice of the Government and they were made to feel that if there were things in excess of the needs of the people of a particular area and if the neighbouring area was affected with scarcity conditions, the things

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in excess in the neighbouring area should be promptly transported to the area which was in need of those things and that, therefore, the water which might be found to be in excess of the needs of a particular locality, should be taken to the area which needed it very badly so that the people of that area might be saved from the clutches of famine. The people referred to the water that remained impounded in the Vaigai Dam and wanted it to be diverted. The Government at once realised the reasonableness of the demands of the people who were threatened with famine conditions and water was let from the Vaigai Dam to those parts of the East Ramanathapuram district for a few days and the crops were saved from withering. This is what ought to be done by a Government which have always before them the goal of a Welfare State. If the objective of a Welfare State is to be achieved, if a socialistic pattern of society, which is the goal of our country, is to be established, the Government should always be alert to find out the needs of the people living in different parts of the State and should always be on the move to find out the needs of the several parts and satisfy them by transporting the things which are found in excess in a particular area to areas which require them very badly. Here water was impounded in the Vaigai Dam for the prospective second crop of an area which had first a bumper crop. That was impounded there for the purpose of serving a second crop in a prosperous area, namely, the Periyar area and whenever application was made to the Government that water could be used for the purpose of the lands which required urgently water during the cultivation season, water was not let out, but kept impounded there for serving the purpose of a future need of a particular locality. This year the Government came to their senses and water was let out to the Vaigai area, to the East Ramanathapuram area which had urgent, immediate need for water. The same thing should be done every year and that is my plea. Very often, East Ramanathapuram area is threatened by drought. In such matters, Government should by themselves know whether water would be required during the last portion of the cultivation season and if it is found that immediate supply of water is necessary, water from the Vaigai Dam should be let out, and prompt and timely remedy should be extended to that area. That has been done this year. But these things the Government should do by themselves, of their own accord, and no kind of agitation emanating from the people should be necessary for the purpose. I thank the Government for the small mercies that they have shown this year. But mercy was shown after a good deal of agitation and after conferences were held and resolutions were passed and sent to the Government. That ought not to be the attitude of the Government. Government should be on the look-out to find out the need of particular areas and whatever remedy is necessary should be extended by the Government, without any necessity for an agitation by the people. Thank you, Sir.

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(Mr. Chairman in the Chair.)

*SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கவர்னர் உரையை மீண்டும் பூர்வமிக் ஆதரித்து இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். கவர்னர் உரையின் மீது நான்கு நாட்களாக விவாதம் கர்ச்சாரமாக

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நடந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்ற இந்த வேளையில் என்னைக் கடைசியில் பேசுவதற்காக அழைத்ததற்கு முதலில் உங்களுக்கு என் நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்வதோடு கவர்னர் அவர்கள் கூட்டுக் கூட்டத்தில் நிகழ்த்திய பிரச்சங்கத்திற்கும் என் நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். கவர்னர் அவர்கள் தன்னுடைய பிரச்சங்கத்தில் முதலாவதாகத் திருநெல்வேலி, ராமநாதபுரம், வடஆற்காடு போன்ற ஜில்லாக்களில் பருவ மழை தவறியதின் காரணமாக அந்த ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு வரி வஜா போன்ற சலுகைகள் அளிக்கப்படும் என்று குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் இதே போன்று பல இடங்களில் பருவச் சேதம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. அதாவது, தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் திருக்கோயிலூர், விருத்தாசலம், கள்ளக்குறிச்சி, திண்டிவனம் போன்ற சில கிராமங்களில் பருவ மழை தவறியதின் காரணமாக அங்கு நெய் பயிர் மட்டுமல்ல, புஞ்சை மகசூல்களும் சேதமடைந்திருக்கின்றன. ஆகவே, அதற்கும் நம் அரசாங்கம் வரிவஜா போன்ற சலுகைகளைச் செய்து கொடுப்பதோடு, அங்கு வசூலிக்கப்படுகின்ற கடன் வசூலை நிறுத்தி வைக்கும்படி அரசாங்கத்தைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

மற்றொன்றையும் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு ஞாபகப்படுத்த விரும்புகிறேன். அதாவது, கவர்னர் அவர்களின் பிரச்சங்கத்தின் மீதும், பட்ஜெட்டின் மீதும் பேசும்போதுதான் என் போன்றவர்களுக்கு அதிகமாக இம்மாதிரிப் பேசுவதற்கு வாய்ப்புக் கிடைக்கிறது. அந்த நேரத்தில் அந்தத் தொகுதிகளில் இருக்கின்ற கஷ்டங்கள் சிலவற்றை அமைச்சர்களின் கவனத்திற்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்லுகிறேன். மற்றும் சில அந்தந்த மாவட்டத்தில் ஏற்படுகின்ற குறைகளைப்பற்றி எடுத்துச் சொல்லுகின்ற நேரத்தில், இங்கே இருக்கின்ற பெரிய அதிகாரிகள் அவ்வப்போது அவைகளைப்பற்றி அந்தந்த மாவட்ட அதிகாரிகளுக்கு அறிவித்து, பொறுப்புள்ள சட்ட சபை அங்கத்தினர்களும் இல்லாதமெல்லாம் கூறுகிறார்களே, இது உண்மையா, இல்லையா என்றும் உண்மையானால் இதற்கெல்லாம் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்தீர்கள் என்றும் கேட்கப்படுகின்றதா என்பதை அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்க வேண்டும் என்று அரசாங்கத்தைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். அவ்விதம் செய்தால் தான், மக்களின் பிரதிநிதிகளாக இருக்கின்றவர்கள் இங்கே வந்து சொல்லுகின்ற குறைகளை உடனடியாகக் கவனித்ததாக இருக்கும் என்பதையும் சொல்ல ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். அதல்லாமல், காலங் கடந்து நாங்கள் சொல்லுகின்றவைகளையெல்லாம் அச்சடித்துப் புத்தகமாக அனுப்பினால், அவைகளையெல்லாம் ஜில்லா அதிகாரிகள் சரியாகப் பார்ப்பதற்கு நேரம் இருக்காது. ஆகவே, இங்கே சொல்லப்படுகின்ற குறைகளையெல்லாம் கவனித்து ஜில்லா அதிகாரிகளுக்கு உடனடியாகத் தெரிவிப்பதற்கு ஒரு உத்தியோகஸ்தரை நியமித்தால் கூட, நல்லாக இருக்கும் என நினைக்கிறேன். அப்போதுதான் நாங்கள் இங்கே சொல்லுகின்ற விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி அவர்கள் நன்றாக அறிந்து கொள்ள முடியும். ஆகவே, இதற்குத் தகுந்த விதத்தில் ஒரு ஏற்பாடு செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கத்தைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

அடுத்தபடியாக, விலைவாசி உயர்ந்துவிட்டது என்றும் அதைத் தடுக்க இந்த சர்க்கார் சரியான விதத்தில் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவில்லை என்றும் எதிர்க் கட்சியில் இருக்கின்ற அங்கத்தினர்கள் பலர் போன்றார்கள். இதைப்பற்றி நமது அமைச்சர்கள் ஒருவித முடிவும் எடுக்கவில்லையென்று குற்றம் சாட்டினார்கள். நான் சொல்லுகிறேன், சுதந்திரம் கிடைத்த பிறகு, நமது சர்க்கார் 10 ஆண்டுகளாக, நாம் வெளிநாட்டிலிருந்து நமக்கு 1,260 கோடி ரூபாய்க்கு உணவு தானியங்களை வரவழைத்துக்கொண்டிருந்தோம். சென்ற ஆண்டில், அதாவது 1957-வது ஆண்டில், 140 கோடி ரூபாய்க்குத்தான் வெளிநாடுகளிலிருந்து உணவு தானியங்களை வரவழைத்திருக்கின்றோம். அது மாத்திரமல்ல. முதலாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்தில் நாம் 12 அணைக்கட்டுத் திட்டங்களைப் போட்டு நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்றியிருக்கின்றோம். சில முடிந்தும் முடிவடைந்துகொண்டும் இருக்கின்றன. அது மாத்திரமல்ல, உணவு உற்பத்தியை எடுத்துக் கொண்டோர்த்தால், 1951-52-ல் 511 டன் உணவு தானியங்கள் நமது நாட்டில் விளைந்திருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் 1957-வது ஆண்டில் 687 டனாக உயர்ந்திருக்கிறது. இதிலிருந்து நாம் விளைச்சலை அதிகப்படுத்தியிருக்கிறோம் என்பது தெளிவாகியிருக்கிறது. அதே சமயத்தில், நம்

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[10th February 1959]

முடைய ஜனத்தொகை அதிகமாகிக் கொண்டே போகிறது. உலகத்திலேயே இந்தியாவில் தான் ஜனத்தொகை அதிகமாகிக்கொண்டு வருவதாக பெரிய நிபுணர்கள் எல்லாம் கூறி வருகிறார்கள். இதில் ஒரு விஷயத்தை நாம் கவனிக்க வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அதாவது, 1951-வது ஆண்டில் 19½ சதவீதம் மரணம் இருந்துவந்தது, 1957-வது ஆண்டில் 11½ சதவீதம்தான் இருக்கிறது. நம்முடைய சுகாதார வசதி எவ்வளவு பெருகியிருக்கிறது மரணம் எவ்வளவு குறைந்திருக்கிறது என்பதை இது எடுத்துக் காட்டுகிறது. ஆகவே, ஒரு பக்கத்தில் ஜனப் பெருக்கம் மற்றொரு பக்கத்தில் உணவு தானியங்களின் விலை ஏறிக்கொண்டிருந்தபோதிலும், விளைச்சல் குறையாவண்ணம் நமது சர்க்கார் உணவுப் பெருக்க விஷயத்தில் மிக முக்கியமாகப் பங்குகொண்டு செயல்பட்டு வருகிறார்கள் என்பது எல்லோருக்கும் நன்கு புலப்படும். மேலும் இப்போது இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டம் முடிவடையப் போகிறது, மூன்றாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டம் வரப்போகிறது என்று ராஷ்டிரபதி நேரு பார்லிமெண்டில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையில் மத்தியதர வகுப்பார் எந்த நிலையில் நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நாம் ஆலோசித்துப் பார்த்து, அதற்குத் தகுந்த முறையில் நமது மாநிலத் திட்டங்களை உருவாக்க வேண்டும் என்று பணிவுடன் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

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p.m.

அடுத்தபடியாக, இரண்டாவது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டம் முடிவடையும் தருவாயிலும் சுதந்திரம் கிடைத்து 10 ஆண்டுகளாகியும் மத்திய அரசாங்க நிர்வாகத்தின்கீழ் இருக்கக்கூடிய ரயில்வேயை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு பார்த்தால், இன்றுவரையில் பொதுமக்கள் போகக்கூடிய ரயில்களில் வசதி போக்குவரத்துக்கு வேண்டிய இட வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதா என்று கேட்கிறேன்—இல்லவே இல்லை. என்று வரையில், மக்கள் ஒரு மூட்டைமேல் மறு மூட்டையை அடுக்குவது போலவே, சென்னையிலிருந்து கிளம்பக்கூடிய ஒவ்வொரு ரயிலிலும் நிலைமை இருக்கிறது. ஜனங்களெல்லாம் பல மைல்களுக்கு நின்றுகொண்டே போகவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கு உட்கார்வதற்கு இடம் கிடையாது. இந்த நிலைமை எல்லோருக்கும் நன்றாகத் தெரியும். நாம் முதல் வகுப்பிலும், இரண்டாவது வகுப்பிலும் போனால் மட்டிலும் போதாது. மூன்றாம் வகுப்பிலும் போகும்படி சட்ட சபை அங்கத்தினர்களுக்குச் சொல்ல ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். அப்பொழுதுதான் மத்தியதர வகுப்பினர் குறைகளை நாம் அறியமுடியும். இந்த ரயில்வே மத்திய சர்க்காரின் நிர்வாகத்தில் இருந்தாலும், அதிலுள்ள குறைபாடுகளைப்பற்றிச் சொல்வதற்கு சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர்கள் என்ற முறையிலே நமக்குப் போதுமான உரிமை இருக்கிறது. அப்படிப் போதுமான உரிமை இல்லையென்று சொன்னால், நம்மை போன்றவர்கள் பேசுகின்ற பேச்சை மத்திய சர்க்காருக்கு எடுத்து அனுப்பினால் அல்லது—ரயில்வேயை நிர்வகிக்கும் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு எடுத்து அனுப்பினால்—இதெல்லாம் நாளுக்கு நாள் சிர்திருந்திவிடும் என்று நான் நினைக்கிறேன். மற்றொன்றும் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ரயிலில் புறப்படால், செல்லுகின்ற வழியில்—நடுவில் இருக்கக்கூடிய ரயில் நிலையங்களில்—குடி தண்ணீர் வசதி கிடையாது. சில நிலையங்களில் “வாட்டர் கேரியர்” என்று வைத்திருந்தாலும்கூட, அவர்கள் தண்ணீர் வண்டியை தள்ளிக்கொண்டு போக வேட்கப்படுகிறார்கள். ஒரே இடத்தில் நின்று தண்ணீர் கொடுக்கிறார்கள் மற்ற வண்டிகளை இருப்பவர்களுக்குத் தண்ணீர் கிடைக்கவில்லை. ஆகவே, பொதுமக்கள் வழியிலே தண்ணீர் கிடைக்காமல், “தண்ணீர், தண்ணீர்” என்று கதறுகிறார்கள். அதிலும் முக்கியமாக நெடுந்தாரம் போகக்கூடிய மத்திய தர ஏழை மக்கள் நடு வழியிலே குடிக்கத் தண்ணீர் கிடையாது இல்லாமல் அவதிப்படுகிறார்கள். மற்றொன்றும் சொல்ல ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். ரயில் நிலையங்களில் காப்பி, டீ இவைகள் விற்பதைப் பார்த்தால், அது காப்பியாக இல்லை, கழிவு நீர் என்றுதான் சொல்லவேண்டும். அந்த நிலையில்தான் இருக்கிறது இன்றைக்கு ரயில் நிலையங்களில் விற்கும் பாணங்கள். இதையெல்லாம் ரயில் நிலையங்களில் சுகாதார அதிகாரிகள் சோதனை செய்கிறார்களா, பார்வையிடுகிறார்களா இல்லவே இல்லை. மேலும் ரயில் நிலையங்களில் விற்கப்படும் பட்சணங்கள் எவ்விதம் செய்யப்பட்டவை, எந்த எண்ணெயில் செய்யப்பட்டவை, நல்ல சுகாதாரமான முறையில் செய்து இருக்கின்றனவா என்று சோதனை போடுகின்றார்களா—என்றால், இல்லவே இல்லை. இந்த நிலையில் ரயில் பிரயாணம் செய்யும் ஏழைகளும் மத்திய தர வகுப்பினரும் பரும் கஷ்டம்

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கொஞ்ச நஞ்சுமல்ல. இதைப் பற்றிச் சொல்லாமல் இருக்கமுடியவில்லை. இதை நாம் பிரயாணம் செய்யும்போது கண்கூடாகப் பார்க்கிறோம். பார்த்தச் சீர்திருத்தமால் சும்மா இருக்கமுடியுமா? ரயில்வே மாணேஜர் அவர்களையும், ரயில்வேயை நிர்வகிக்கும் அதிகாரிகள் அத்தனை பேரையும் மூன்றாவது வகுப்பில் பிரயாணம் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ள வேண்டும். அப்போதுதான் தெரியும் அவர்களுக்கு மக்கள் பக்கசுடிய கஷ்டம். அப்படி அவர்கள் தெரிந்துகொண்டிருந்தால், இப்போது 3-வது ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டம் வரும்போதுகூட, இந்த நிலை இருப்பதற்கு இடமில்லை. மத்திய தர வகுப்பினர்கள் பிரயாணம் போக எண்ணினால், ரயிலில் போக பெரும்பாலோருக்கு இஷ்டமில்லை. நமது டிரான்ஸ்போர்ட் அமைச்சர் ஒவ்வொரு ஊருக்கு மேலும் 15 பஸ்கள், 20 பஸ்கள் என்று அதிகப்படுத்தினால் போதுமானது. பொது மக்கள் பஸ்வரில் போனால் சீக்கிரம் போகலாம் என்று சொல்லக்கூடிய நிலை ஏற்பட்டுவிட்டது. இதற்கு இவ்வளவு பொறுப்பற்ற நிலையில் இருப்பது மத்திய சர்க்கார் என்று ஏழைகள் கண்டார்களா? ரயில்வே நிர்வாகம் மத்திய சர்க்காரின்கீழ் இருக்கிறதா அல்லது சென்னை சர்க்காரின்கீழ் இருக்கிறதா என்று எப்படித் தெரியும்? ரயில்வே சம்பந்தப்பட்ட அதிகாரிகள் எந்த சர்க்காரின்கீழ் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று ஏழை மக்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா? அவர்கள் சென்னை சர்க்காரைத்தான் குறை கூறுகிறார்கள் என்பதை மிகவும் தாழ்மையோடு தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன். அல்லது இந்த மன்றத்தில் என்னைப் போல இருப்பவர்கள் பேசுவதைக் குறிப்பு எடுத்து ரயில்வே ஜெனரல் மாணேஜர் அவர்களுக்கு அனுப்பி, நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க சர்க்கார் செய்ய வேண்டும். அதற்குத் தகுந்த நடவடிக்கைகள் நம் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று மறுமுறையும் சொல்லிக்கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். இதை முக்கியமாகக் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். இது மக்கள் பிரச்சனை. அவர்கள் சார்பில் சொல்கிறேன்.

மற்றொரு விஷயம் சர்க்கார் கவனத்துக்குக் கொண்டுவருகிறேன். அதாவது, இப்போது பொது ஜன அமைதிக்கு—பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு—திங்கு ஏற்பட்டால், ஏதாவது கஷ்டம் நேரிடும்போது, அல்லது குழப்பம் நேரிடும்போது, அது யாரால் ஏற்பட்டது, எத்தனை வருஷங்களாக ஏற்பட்டு வருகிறது என்று பார்த்து, அதற்குப் பொறுப்பானவர்களை டிடென்ஷன் ஆக்கின்கீழ் பாதுகாப்புக் காவலில் அரசாங்கம் வைக்கிறார்கள். அது மட்டும் போதாது. இன்றைக்கு எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் கிராமங்களில் கொலைகள், சண்டை சச்சரவுகள், குழப்பங்கள், அடிதடிகள், கல்வரங்கள் எல்லாம் அடிக்கடி நடக்கின்றன. இதற்குக் காரணம், என்ன, மூல கர்த்தாக்கள் யார், யாரால் தூண்டப்படுகின்றன, எத்தனை வருஷ காலமாகத் தூண்டப்பட்டு வருகின்றன என்பதையெல்லாம் நாம் அலசிப்பார்த்து, இது செல்வாக்குக் காரணமாகவா அல்லது ஆள் பலம் காரணமாகவா என்று கண்டு வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைகள் உடனுக்குடன் எடுக்கவேண்டும். ஒரு கிராமம் மற்றொரு கிராமத்தையே தாக்குகிறது. காலை படுக்கையை விட்டு எழுந்திருப்பதற்கு முன்னமேயே சென்று தாக்கிவிட்டுத் திரும்பிவிடுகிறார்கள். இதற்கெல்லாம் காரணம் என்ன? இந்தக் கலவரம் காரணமாகப் போலீஸார் யாரையாவது கைது செய்து வழக்குத் தொடர்ந்தால், படித்த வக்கீலை வைத்து தப்பித்துக்கொண்டு விடுகிறார்கள். செய்த குற்றத்தையே மறைத்து இல்லையென்று சாதிக்கக்கூடிய வக்கீல்கள் நம் நாட்டிலே அதிகம் வெளிக் கிளம்பி விட்ட நிலையிலே போலீஸார் எதையும் சாதிக்க முடியவில்லை. சில முக்கியமான பொறுப்புகளை—பவர்களை—அரசாங்கம் வைத்துக்கொண்டால் தான் நல்ல ஆட்சி நடத்த முடியும். அதற்காக நாம் என்ன செய்ய வேண்டும்? படிப்படியாக வருஷக் கணக்கில் யார் குற்றம் புரிகின்றார்களோ, தூண்டிவிடுகின்றார்களோ, கலவரம் செய்யக் காரணமாய் இருக்கிறார்களோ அவர்களைப் பாதுகாப்புக் காவல் சட்டத்தின்கீழ் 3 மாதம், 6 மாதம் என்ற கால அளவில் காவலில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளப் போலீஸுக்கு அதிகாரம் கொடுக்கச் சட்ட ரீதியாக அனுமதி கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான், அமைதியான ஆட்சி நடத்த முடியும் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். இதற்கு உடனடியாகச் சட்டம் செய்யவேண்டும். இதில் அரசாங்கம் காலதாமதம் செய்யக்கூடாது.

[Sri M. Ethirajalu] [10th February 1959]

அடுத்தபடியாக, ஒன்று மட்டும் அரசாங்கத்தின் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன். எதிர்க் கட்சியில் இருக்கக்கூடிய பெரிய தலைவர்களெல்லாம் மத்திய சர்க்காரிலும் இருக்கும் ஸ்டேட் டிரேடிங் கார்ப்பொரேஷன் செய்து வரும் நேர்மையற்ற வேலைகளைப்பற்றிச் சொன்னார்கள். அவ்வளவும் உண்மைதான், விலைவாசி உயர்வைப்பற்றிச் சொன்னார்கள். இன்றைக்கு வாஷிங் சோடா இருக்கிறது. ஆறு மரதாக்களுக்கு முன்பு 9½ அனுவாக விற்பனை வந்தது இன்று வரையில் ரூ. 1-4-0க்குக் குறைந்து விற்பனையாகியுள்ளது. ஏன் அதை நம் அரசாங்கம் கட்டுப்படுத்த முடியவில்லை? ஸ்டேட் டிரேடிங் கார்ப்பொரேஷனுக்கு எத்தகைய அதிகாரம் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று தெரியவில்லை. நமது சர்க்காருக்கு இதைக் கட்டுப்படுத்தும் உரிமையிலேயா? சோடா விஷயத்தைப்பற்றிப் பலதடவைகள் இங்கே கதறிக் கதறிச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். தமிழ் நாட்டில் இருக்கிற 7 லட்சம் சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் இதைப் பயன்படுத்தி தொழில் செய்து வாழ்க்கை நடத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். போதுமான சோடா கொடுக்கப்படுகிறதா, ஏதோ சிறிதளவு பகிர்ந்து கொடுத்தால் மட்டும் போதுமா? விலை குறையவேண்டாமா? துரிதமான நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து, இதன் மூலம் ஜீவனம் செய்துகொண்டிருக்கும் சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு நிரந்தரமான பரிகாரம் தேட வேண்டும். ஏதோ சோடா கொடுத்திருக்கிறோம். இருந்தாலும் அது போதுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். விலை உயர்வைத் தடுத்துக் குறைக்க வேண்டும். போதுமான அளவு சோடா கொடுக்க மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தோடு பேச்சுவார்த்தை நடத்தவேண்டும், இல்லாவிட்டால் அவர்களின் கூக்குரல், இருதயத்தின் குமுரல் அடங்காது என்று இந்த சட்டமன்றத்தில் மனவருத்தத்துடன் சொல்லுகின்றேன். சேலத்திற்கு இரண்டு நாட்களுக்கு முன்பு நான் சென்றிருந்தேன். அப்போது ஆயிரக்கணக்கான சலவைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் என்னைக் கண்டு, கதறினார்கள். என்னால் பதில் சொல்ல முடியவில்லை. இந்த விலையைக் குறைக்கத் தொழிலமைச்சரிடம் சொல்லிப் பரிகாரம் செய்யக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டார்கள். ஆகையால், அரசாங்கம் உடனடியாக நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து இந்த விலை உயர்வைத் தடுத்து விலை குறைவதற்கு வழி செய்வதோடு தாராளமாக மார்க்கெட்டில் கிடைக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யும்படி தாமதமையுடன் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். நேரமில்லாத காரணத்தினால் கடைசி சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் பேசுவதற்கு அனுமதியளித்ததற்கு நன்றி, என் பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். வணக்கம்.

* SRI K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it gives me great pleasure to wind up this discussion. (Interruption.) I am sorry, the Hon. Minister is here to reply and wind up the discussion. So, I say I am happy to participate in this discussion. During the debate the hon. Members have referred to several points that are found in the Address as well as those that are not found therein. In the opening paragraph His Excellency seems to feel satisfied that there is some solution to the "union language problem, educational policy, panchayat legislation and student participation in politics, all of which have evoked appreciative comments throughout the country outside the State." Of course, it looks very well, Sir, from a distance. Even if you take a simple thing like student participation in politics, it may be an agreed decision on paper. But as one who is going about the country, I ask, can we legitimately feel that such a situation has been got over and is the student population feeling all right and are the students above party politics? Putting a decision on paper is one thing and professing a certain attitude is one thing; but practising it is an altogether different thing. Having once agreed that there should be this healthy attitude, it is better that we try to follow it. So also, we say that the Union language problem is

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settled for ever. I do not think it is so. It is a very big problem; it may be a problem that has to be settled on an all-India basis. You may agree that, side by side with Hindi, English may be the Union official language for some more years to come. But are the Bengalees satisfied with your proposition? Are they following the same formula? Are the Gujaratis of the same view? Are the Marathis adopting the same attitude? But, all the same, we are trying to solve this big problem in our own way. After all is said and done, it requires lot of patient work. If there is mere appreciative reference or some satisfaction, it will not do.

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p. 11.

Secondly, the Governor's Address points out failure of crops only in three districts of the State, viz., Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram and North Arcot districts. We do not know whether the Government have received reports from other parts also. Almost all the parts of the State suffer from failure of monsoon and consequently, failure of crops depending on rain. Rainfed and well-irrigated lands have suffered loss to the extent of 50 per cent and more. Many wells have completely dried up. There is no water. I may say, in Coimbatore district itself; there are several dry areas. One of the hon. Members coming from Coimbatore referred to only one taluk, viz., Dharapuram. What about other taluks in the district? If the Government give relief to the agriculturist, it should be given uniformly to all in all parts of the State where there is failure of crops.

Now, we have fixed the prices of foodgrains. The prices have been fixed not by this Government, but by the Central Government, and they have to be followed. The producers are going to get stipulated prices and this looks like fixing the rate of postcards on a uniform basis throughout the country. Can rice or paddy be sold at the same price at Tanjore and at Nagercoil? What about transit charges? What is the price the consumer must pay at the place of production and at the place of distribution? These are things glaringly omitted. Anyhow, it is a policy dictated by the Centre from Delhi and our State Government feel helpless about it. But can they not at least make amends now to the extent it lies in their power and see that the soaring prices are kept at a level? I am sure the rise in the price level is due to the artificial way of doing things. Food scarcity is also due to that. Our Ministers must convince the higher authorities at Delhi and try to bring about workable price levels. Everything cannot be settled there. Our Ministers must have a say in the matter.

We talk of co-operative farming. Surely we are going to have it when ceiling is introduced. The question of ceiling has been dealt with at very great length by almost all the hon. Members who preceded me in this debate. In regard to this vexed question, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition did great service to the Government and the people by giving a vivid, eloquent exposition of the problem. He has taken the trouble of noting the meaning for 'vexed' in the Oxford Dictionary and reading it aloud in this House. It requires a great deal of thought and a great deal of real co-operation. Instead of finding solutions for problems, we

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are creating more and more problems and thereby bungling to a great extent. We cannot retrace our steps. We want to march on and on and that is our objective in the economic sphere. Of course, the matter cannot brook very much delay. But how are we going to do it? There is no use of going on discussing and debating things for ever. We must move. We should find an alternative for this scheme of ceiling. This is a thing that should engage the attention of the Government in the immediate future.

Then, Sir, we are in the middle of the Second Plan period. We have two more years to complete this period. Now, mention is often made of the Third Five-Year Plan. What are the big projects we are going to have in this part of the country for the Third Plan? By all means we can have big projects in the public sector. Here in the South we have the Neiveli Project already taken up. Barring that, whenever such big projects are thought of, priority and preference are always given to areas where they might be superfluous, and other areas where they are badly needed are neglected. I would invite the attention of the Government to the long-pending proposal to open a railway line connecting Erode, Satyamangalam-Chamarajnar. This has found a place in the Second Plan but nothing has been done so far. This rail link between Mysore and Madras States is long overdue. Coimbatore is a district where we have very few lines unlike the fertile districts of Tiruchirappalli and Tanjore, where there is a network of railway lines, connecting almost all the taluk headquarters.

SRI JOHN ASIRVATHAM: What about the Coimbatore-Madurai line?

* SRI K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER: There is one. We had the Coimbatore-Madurai Express also. Now it is converted into Coimbatore-Danushkodi Express.

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI: மதுரை வரையில் எக்ஸ்பிரஸாகவும், மதுரையிலிருந்து தனுஷ்கோடி வரையில் பாஸஞ்சராகவும் போகிறது.

* SRI K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER: Thank you for the correction. Then, Sir, we had a proposal to have a project known as the Upper Bhavani Project. We have, of course, the Lower Bhavani Project now. If the former project is executed, it will not cost so much as the Parambikulam Project, it will give a good deal of benefits to the other drier areas of Coimbatore district.

Next, Sir, is the question of rural water-supply. We talk of rural electrification more than rural water-supply. I have been trying off and on to focus the attention of the Government on executing their policy of supplying water from the main pipes whenever a municipal town takes water to it through village panchayats. 5 p.m. It has been done from Mettur to Salem and it is going to be done from Coimbatore to Siruvani. And I have been insisting that Gobichettipalayam Municipal Water-supply Scheme should supply water to the Lakkampatti Panchayat through which the main pipeline runs all through.

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MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member's time is up.

* SRI K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER : Sir, I will take two or three more minutes. I want to refer to some important matters. I want to speak about the Non-Gazetted Officers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is already 5 o'clock and it is not proper to ask for some more time.

* SRI K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER : Sir, the Government machinery is too slow to move. The Lakkampatti Panchayat gave a petition to the Hon. the Minister for Health some six months ago and it is legitimate that they should also get protected water-supply. But nothing has so far been said on this. Such administrative delays make it appear that nothing is being carried out. Justice delayed to this extent looks like justice denied. Though I want to refer to one or two important matters, I could not do so as the time given to me is up.

But all the same, I plead the cause of the Non-Gazetted Officers. They should be treated with consideration due to them. I thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3 p.m. to-morrow.

I have also got to announce that there is a photograph to be taken just opposite the Members' Lounge. Of course, there is the Tea Party also.

The House then adjourned.

IV.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 99. *Notification issued with G.O. No. 44, Local Administration, dated 9th January 1959, regarding extension of the term of office of the members of the Ambasamudram Panchayat (Tirunelveli district) till 15th February 1959.*

100. *A short review of the activities of the Madras State Electricity Board during the first half of the year 1958-59.*